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Slyunkov Report to Belorussian CP Congress

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[Report delivered to the 30th Belorussian Communist Party Congress in Minsk on 30 January by N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee: "Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Accountability Report to 30th Belorussian Communist Party Congress"]

[Text] Comrades! The period under review was filled with intensive labor by the party and people. Following the 26th CPSU Congress' course, our motherland has made substantial progress along the path of communist building. New heights have been scaled in developing the economy and culture. Working people's prosperity has increased, and their spiritual life has been enriched. The Soviet Union's defense might has strengthened. The friendship of the USSR's fraternal peoples has strengthened, and their ideological-political unity and cohesion around the Leninist party have become even more unbreakable. The Land of the Soviets' prestige in the international arena has risen even higher.

The leading and directing role of the Communist Party as the nucleus of our society's political system has grown. The CPSU Central Committee April and October (1985) Plenums filled the forms and methods of its multifaceted activity with new content. They advanced and substantiated the concept of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and achieving on this basis the qualitative transformation of all aspects of Soviet society's life.

The drafts of the new edition of the CPSU Program, the amendments to the CPSU Statutes, and the Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the Period Through the Year 2000 were most important documents which enriched Marxist-Leninist theory, the strategy and tactics of communist building, and the foreign policy activity of the Soviet state.

The draft new edition of the CPSU Program — a document of tremendous theoretical and political significance — contains a Marxist-Leninist assessment of the modern age and provides an in-depth analysis of the trends and characteristics of world development. It reveals our society's historic achievements and socialism's indisputable socioeconomic, political, ideological, and moral advantages.

The CPSU Program in its current edition is, in Lenin's words, "a concise, clear, and precise statement of **everything for which the party is striving and struggling**." (V.I. Lenin. *Complete Collected Works*, Vol 7 p 166) As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, it is a program for the systematic and comprehensive improvement of socialism and for further progress by Soviet society toward communism on the basis of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. It is a program of struggle for peace and social progress and an expression of the working people's most radiant ideals and aspirations of which mankind's best minds have dreamed for centuries.

The 27th CPSU Congress' adoption of the new edition of the party Program will be a very major historical landmark marking a new page in Soviet society's life and its onward progress toward the cherished goal — communism.

The CPSU Program is a party document. But the party's links with the masses are so strong and their unity is so unbreakable and monolithic that the party's cause has always been, remains, and always will be a truly nationwide cause. This is why Soviet people ardently approve and wholly support the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy. This is why they firmly and unanimously state: Everything that the party has planned will be fulfilled.

I. Increasing Production in Every Way by Relying on What Has Been Achieved and Accelerating Scientific and Technical Progress

1. The Results of the Republic Party Organization's Work To Implement the 26th CPSU Congress Decisions Form a Firm Foundation for the Belorussian Economy To Scale New Heights

Comrades! During the period under review, the efforts of Communists and all of Belorussia's working people were concentrated on implementing the program for the country's socioeconomic development formulated by the 26th CPSU Congress.

It is well known that the 11th 5-Year Plan turned out to be difficult in both the country and the republic. During the first 2 years our average annual economic development rates were lower than those envisaged for the 5-year plan period. Industry, agriculture, trade, and consumer services for the population lagged behind. There were various reasons, but the main ones were the lack of a persistent and consistent struggle to fulfill targets and shortcomings in work to mobilize people to implement what had been planned.

On the basis of in-depth analysis, the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo uncovered in a principled and bold fashion the objective and subjective factors retarding progress and adopted resolute measures to rectify the situation. The party adopted a course aimed at developing initiative and a creative approach and at increasing responsibility and strengthening discipline and order.

The republic's Communists and working people supported this course through actions. In addition to organizational and political measures to fulfill the 26th CPSU Congress decisions, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee formulated and implemented a number of measures to improve the style and methods of activity of party committees, soviet and economic organs, and social organizations. A severe assessment was made of those who were slow to restructure their work, rested on their laurels, and could not be bothered to seek new solutions and unused reserves. Our cadres underwent a good schooling in the systems approach to matters and the mobilization of people and acquired experience of leadership and management under present-day conditions. All this helped to increase people's activeness, accelerate economic development rates, improve the moral and psychological climate, and spur collectives to work more intensively and fulfill the 5-year plan for the main indicators.

The gross social product increased by 26.5 percent and national income by 32.5 percent as against a target of 23.3 percent. The average annual rate of national income growth totaled 5.8 percent as against 5.1 percent in the previous 5-year plan. Social labor productivity increased 30 percent. The materials-intensiveness of the gross social product fell 3.4 percent. Industrial workers coped with their 5-year plan targets ahead of schedule. The volume of production increased by 29.6 percent and labor productivity by 21.4 percent. An appreciable change for the better was observed in capital construction. The 5-year plan was fulfilled. Some 25 percent more fixed capital was commissioned than during the previous 5-year period. The time taken to erect installations was reduced by 20 percent.

Positive changes are occurring in the agrarian sector of the economy, although the results here are more modest. The last 3 years were a turning point, with milk production increasing by an average of 232,000 metric tons and meat production by an average of 83,000 metric tons every year. The plans for the sale of all basic types of agricultural products to the state were fulfilled during these years. For most of these products the arrears which had built up at the beginning of the 5-year plan were eliminated or reduced. In terms of milk purchases the republic reached the Food Program targets; it also got close to them for meat procurements.

The Belorussian Communist Party's attention is constantly centered on questions of increasing people's living standards. Per capita real incomes increased 12 percent. Worker and employee wages increased by 15 percent and kolkhoz members' earnings by more than 50 percent. Appropriations for medical assistance, the payment of pensions, allowances, and additional benefits for the disabled and war veterans, and pension provision for kolkhoz members improved. Social consumption funds grew by 26 percent, totaling R508 per inhabitant of the republic. The provision of food and industrial products for the population improved. The volume of retail trade turnover increased by 18.3 percent and consumer service sales by 43.7 percent. More than 23 million square meters of housing was commissioned. Every fifth inhabitant of Belorussia improved his housing conditions. Education, public health, and culture developed further.

The factors behind the successes achieved by Soviet Belorussia during the last 5-year plan include the selfless labor of workers, kolkhoz members, and the intelligentsia and the multifaceted activity of party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and all our cadres. These successes are also the result of consistent implementation of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy and its constant concern for the harmonious development of all the fraternal republics.

People grow and the ranks of production front-runners and innovators increase in heroic and inspired labor. As always, the Communists lead the way. And this is natural. Being a Communist means first and foremost placing the socialist motherland's interests above everything and setting an example of a creative attitude, discipline, and a high degree of organization.

The very best of the republic's Communists have been elected delegates to our party congress. They include: Yevgeniy Ivanovich Klimchenko, leader of a team of machine tool operators at the V.I. Lenin Minsk tractor plant association, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and Hero of Socialist Labor; Vladimir Vasilyevich Serookiy, tunneling combine operator at the "Beloruskalliy" association and Belorussian Supreme Soviet deputy; Nina Ivanovna Denisenko, weaver at the Mogilev ribbon factory; Leonid Afanasyevich Tozik, leader of an integrated team at the "Minskpromstroy" association and Hero of Socialist Labor; Vasiliy Ilyich Gornak, leader of a team of drivers at Gomel's No 1 motor vehicle combine and USSR State Prize winner; Svetlana Mikhaylovna Dmitrenko, worker at Vitebsk's "Krasnyy Oktyabr" footwear factory; Lidiya Dmitriyevna Bryzga, milking machine operator at Brestskiy Rayon's "Pamyat Ilyicha" kolkhoz-combine, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, and Hero of Socialist labor; Ivan Grigoryevich Sinitskiy, team leader at Lyubanskiy Rayon's Zagalskiy sovkhoz, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and full holder of the Order of Labor Glory; Anna Semenovna Shchetko, cattle fattening operative at Stolbtsovskiy Rayon's "Krasnyy Oktyabr" kolkhoz and Hero of Socialist Labor; Ivan Ivanovich Kurovskiy, tractor driver at Voronovskiy Rayon's "Pogorodno" experimental base and full holder of the Order of Labor Glory; Lidiya Mikhaylovna Dimenkova, senior sales clerk at Mogilev's No 4 City Food Trade Organization; Lyubov Vladimirovna Khotyleva, director of the Institute of Genetics and Cytology, meritorious figure of science of the republic, and academician of the Belorussian Academy of Sciences; Alla Petrovna Ogarkova, teacher at Kamenetskiy Rayon's Vysokoye secondary school and meritorious teacher of the Belorussian SSR; and many, many others.

Allow me, comrades, to express heartfelt gratitude and recognition on behalf of our congress to all who, sparing neither effort nor energy, are making a worthy contribution through conscientious labor to augmenting the motherland's economic and spiritual potential.

The last 5-year plan provided many examples of how it is necessary to work in order to achieve high results for the least expenditure. It revealed more fully our opportunities and reserves and ways to utilize them. The republic party organization was enriched with experience of leadership of the economy under the new conditions. At the same time our shortcomings stood out in sharp relief.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and its Bureau and the Belorussian Council of Ministers failed to secure the achievement by the republic's national economy of a qualitatively new scientific, technical, and organizational-economic level. The republic failed to achieve a decisive improvement in intensifying production and increasing its efficiency.

The resources invested in economic development are yielding a low return. Labor productivity growth rates are lagging behind the rates of growth of the capital-labor ratio. The Belorussian Council of Ministers and Gosplan did not analyze fixed capital utilization in depth for a long time and failed to adopt effective measures to improve the situation. A system which would spur enterprise and sector leaders on a plan basis to increase the return on capital was not elaborated. When elaborating annual and 5-year plans the Gosplan fails to coordinate the allocation of resources and establishment of new capacities with the utilization

of already-existing capacities. It must become an immutable rule that capital investments should be allocated for new construction only if the potential of existing capital has been fully utilized, including by reconstruction and modernization.

In industry 5-7 percent of enterprises and associations failed every year to cope with their output sales and labor productivity plans, and 1 in almost every 6 violated contract discipline. Only 50 percent of labor productivity growth is attributable to scientific and technical measures. The technical standard and quality of many products is low. The Food Program targets for the production and sale to the state of meat, milk, potatoes, flax, and sugar beet were not fulfilled. In construction the time taken to install projects exceeds the normative time by an average of 50 percent.

Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee secretaries and I as first secretary are largely to blame here. The Central Committee Bureau, Secretariat, and departments failed to get all oblast, city, rayon, and primary party organizations to restructure their work style and methods and were unable to concentrate their efforts fully on the leading avenues of intensification of the economy — the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the reconstruction and retooling of production, the modification of investment policy, and the resolution of social questions.

The correct conclusions will have to be drawn and the necessary lessons learned from the shortcomings which have been allowed to occur. The style and methods of organizational and ideological education work, management of the economy and social development, and economic management practice must be brought into line with the party's demands. And this restructuring must begin with the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and Belorussian Council of Ministers leadership, their departments and apparatus, and the leaders of the republic's ministries and departments.

A special role in implementing the party's economic strategy is assigned to the current 5-year plan and the year 1986. They must become turning points. We must ensure the transition of the republic's national economy to the tracks of intensive development. During the 5-year plan it is planned to increase industrial output by 22-25 percent and ensure the preferential development of the sectors determining scientific and technical progress — machine building, instrument making, and the radio engineering, electronics, and electrical engineering industries.

Our plans in agriculture are geared to the unconditional fulfillment of the Food Program. Average annual gross output is to increase 12-14 percent. By the end of the 5-year plan, it is envisaged that 1.2-1.3 million metric tons of meat (slaughter weight) and 7.1-7.3 million metric tons of milk will be obtained. The grain crop must be increased to 8-8.2 million metric tons.

The entire increase in industrial and agricultural output, transport shipments, and construction work is to be obtained by increasing labor productivity.

2. The Acceleration of Scientific and Technical Progress Is the Key Problem

Comrades! The cardinal acceleration of scientific and technical progress is the fundamental question of the party's economic strategy. In recent years the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government have adopted important decisions to encourage creative activity on the part of scientists and engineering and technical workers and to strengthen the link between science and practical work.

The program of our actions in this area was determined by the republic party-economic aktiv meeting on the results of the June (1985) CPSU Central Committee conference.

The republic possesses a solid scientific potential. Many collectives are solving scientific and technical problems at the level of world achievements and have to their credit developments capable of substantially raising production efficiency and product quality. Approximately 1,000 new types of machines, equipment, and instruments were created, and production of more than 1,700 types of products was started up. Great opportunities are being opened up by research into biotechnology and genetic engineering, microelectronics, and the widespread introduction of robot and microprocessor technology.

The utilization of scientific ideas and applied developments in creating the latest equipment and technology depends decisively on the practical zeal of ministries, departments, and association and enterprise leaders and specialists. They must be more vigorous in eliminating the factors retarding the large-scale introduction of scientific and technical achievements and progressive experience. Manifestations of irresponsibility and red tape must receive a strict party assessment. Boldness of thought and intolerance of routine and stagnation must become the immutable norm.

In critically assessing science's link with production, it should be acknowledged that scientific establishments are lax in taking account of the requests and requirements of leading sectors of the republic's economy. The prime culprits here are Belorussian Council of Ministers Deputy Chairman Comrade Kritskiy, the Gosplan, and Belorussian Academy of Sciences President Comrade N.A. Borisevich.

It is necessary to impart a great technical and technological thrust to fundamental research and applied development work, narrow the gap between the topics covered in this field and the solution of the most important regional problems, and coordinate them more closely with the specifics of the development of priority sectors, primarily machine building, radio-electronics, and the chemical and petrochemical industry. It is from precisely these positions that the Gosplan and Belorussian Academy of Sciences Presidium must approach the shaping of scientific research plans. In the current 5-year plan period it is necessary to double the volume of work carried out by academy institutes for the needs of the republic's national economy.

It is very important to enhance the Belorussian Academy of Sciences' coordinating role; ensure the harmonious joint activity of academy, VUZ, and plant-level science; eliminate parallelism and duplication in their work; and eradicate departmental barriers. Science must not only offer the national economy individual innovations but also must actively promote the fundamental

retooling of production. It must determine — dictate, if you like — the technical standard of production and be as responsible as sectors for its correspondence to current requirements.

This task must be resolved through the joint efforts of scientists and practical workers. Science must resolutely address production's needs and vice versa. The first steps have been taken. The "Intensification" comprehensive republic program has been elaborated and approved by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. The successful implementation of this, and likewise of other most-important national economic programs, is a reliable guarantee of fulfilling the 5-year plan. A systems approach and effective party control are required here.

It is necessary to make more active use of proven forms for integrating science with production and at the same time to seek new ones taking account of regional characteristics and conditions. An important step could be the creation, on the basis of leading academy technical institutes, of scientific and technical complexes and associations with an "institute-design bureau-experimental production facility-experimental plant" structure, engineering centers, and also temporary creative collectives.

The network of science-and-production associations must be expanded. Their effectiveness has been confirmed by practical experience. In the "Planar" science-and-production association, development and assimilation of the most complex equipment takes 12-18 months. In 10 years the productivity of the equipment it produces has increased between 5 and 6 times, its precision has increased 3 times, and 25-30 percent of the product range has been renewed every year.

However, we have only 27 science-and-production associations. And only four of them have been formed on the basis of scientific research institutes and union-level ministries' design bureaus and enterprises. The republic government should accelerate the examination of existing proposals and display more persistence in implementing them. The main need is not purely formal association beneath a single signboard as a gesture to fashion, but an effective merging of the efforts of equipment development workers and manufacturers and a reduction in the time taken for scientific ideas to get from laboratory to production shop.

Sector science must become a real implementor of scientific and technical progress. As yet it is not always based on leading scientific ideas or the results of fundamental research and does not give specific orders for development projects linked with sectors' development prospects. Here staffing is also poor. The number of doctors of science here is 50-75 percent lower than in academy institutes and VUZes. The plant-level sector of science also requires considerable reinforcement with cadres.

The correct thing would be for the republic government to organize the certification of sector scientific research, planning, and design and technological organizations and, where expedient, to merge small scientific research institutes, design bureaus, subsidiaries, and departments and incorporate them into science-and-production and production associations.

Sector scientific research laboratories or the dual-jurisdiction laboratories being created in the VUZ and academy system are called upon to become a more fruitful link in the "science and production" chain. They are the logical continuation of plant-level science, as it were, while remaining the plenipotentiary representative of academy or VUZ science in production.

The experimental base of scientific establishments and VUZes must be substantially strengthened. In the current 5-year plan period a considerable proportion of the capital investments allocated for the construction of scientific facilities must be channeled into these objectives.

The role of engineering and technical personnel and workers in accelerating scientific and technical progress must be increased. Effective proposals from them do not always meet with support. Recent years have seen a decline in the effectiveness of invention and rationalization work at enterprises of the Belorussian Ministry of Industrial Construction, Ministry of Communications, and Ministry of the Fuel Industry. In Minsk Oblast, for example, almost one proposal in every six remains unintroduced. This is not good management.

Party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and economic organs must improve the activity of scientific and technical society and the All-Union Inventors and Rationalizers Society organizations, improve the scientific and technical information system, develop in every working person an aspiration to participate in improving equipment and technology, and enlist young men and women in this more actively. There is now an urgent need to create in the republic a comprehensive system of work to develop the scientific and technical creativity of young people.

Questions linked with accelerating scientific and technical progress and galvanizing the activity of all its components must be key matters in the work of party committees and organizations. More vigorous and persistent efforts are needed from the Central Committee Bureau and republic Council of Ministers, secretaries and all sections of the Belorussian Communist Party, and Belorussian Council of Ministers deputy chairmen.

3. Intensive Development for the Republic's Industry

Comrades! The republic's industrial workers are persistently seeking effective ways to resolve the tasks set by the party. It is important to consolidate our cadres' keenness for the dynamic development of industry and ensure high and stable average rates of industrial growth. In terms of both production volume and labor productivity, these rates must total approximately 5 percent in the current 5-year plan. This requires a resolute turnabout in the direction of production intensification.

The main avenue is steady labor productivity growth on the basis of the comprehensive mechanization and automation of technological processes, the widespread application of industrial robots and manipulators, the creation of flexible production systems, the introduction of labor- and resource-saving technologies, and the acceleration of enterprise retooling.

A leading role belongs to machine building, which accounts for a large proportion of the republic's industry. In the current 5-year plan it is necessary not only to increase machine building and metal working output by 45-50 percent but also to make the

transition to the mass manufacture of new generations of equipment capable of securing a manifold increase in labor productivity. This work will require the restructuring of the work of scientific establishments, design bureaus, production collectives, and party, soviet, and economic organs.

The CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum moved questions of raising the technical standard and quality of output to the forefront of our practical activity. In present-day conditions it is important not only to do more but, most importantly, to do it better and achieve the best world level of quality. This is a task of tremendous economic and political significance.

The negative trend toward a decline in the production of products in the top-quality category observed in the republic at the beginning of the 5-year plan was overcome through the efforts of party, soviet, and economic organs. Production of such products increased and accounted for 26.4 percent of total production in 1985. The technical parameters of many products improved.

In this respect the collectives of the "Integral" association, the Krasnyy Borets plant in Orsha, the semiconductor power rectifier plant in Molodechno, the Strommash plant in Mogilev, the Krasnyy Pishchevik confectionery factory in Bobruysk, and others deserve a positive assessment.

However, the low quality and technical and esthetic standard of many products remains one of the weak spots in our economy and the cause of the retardation of rates of technical progress and of many difficulties in production and everyday life. Only one-third of the republic's enterprises produce output in the top-quality category. An effective quality control and product certification system has not been organized at many plants and associations. Only 12 percent of new products put into production in the last 5-year plan period received the Seal of Quality. Production of machines which went into production more than 10 years ago is growing at enterprises of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, the Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, and Ministry of Machine Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances.

The combines produced by Gomselmash are heavy, unreliable, and difficult to operate. Let me say bluntly: The association's engineering services and General Director Comrade N.I. Afanasyev have not coped with the problem of improving these machines' technical standard and quality. The Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production also deserves serious criticism. The attention of the Gomel Obkom and Gorkom Bureaus, the Zheleznodorozhnyy Raykom in Gomel, and the association party committee was not centered on these questions. The influence of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Agricultural Machine Building Department (former department chief Comrade A.B. Zuyev) on improving the technical standard and quality of machines and mechanisms was poor.

Other central committee departments, obkoms, many Belorussian Communist Party gorkoms and raykoms, and enterprise party organizations are not actively enough concerning themselves with this most important question.

The CPSU Central Committee has set the following task: A sharp breakthrough in solving this problem must be effected in the 12th 5-Year Plan. Labor collectives must become the center of the struggle for quality. In every one of them it is important to uncover all opportunities and reserves and determine specific ways to utilize them. This will require new approaches. The human factor, scientific and technical progress, production itself, economic measures, and the improvement of the economic mechanism must all be set in motion here.

But it is necessary to start by imposing exemplary order in all sectors of work and changing people's attitude to their obligations. Excellently done work increases our common wealth, whereas, by contrast, poor and unconscientious work reduces it. We are all both manufacturers and consumers of products, and the circle of unprincipledness in assessing work results must be broken in the interests of everybody. The worker's conscience must become the controller of quality. The creation of conditions for high-quality labor is the primary obligation of enterprise leaders, specialists, foremen, and all organizers of production.

The improvement of quality is a party matter, a state matter, a nationwide matter. Product quality must determine the level of all our work; the level of organization and management, discipline and responsibility, and overall culture; and the pace of scientific and technical progress.

On the basis of existing experience, in the very near future the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and Belorussian Council of Ministers, ministries and departments, and party obkoms and gorkoms should elaborate a precise quality control mechanism and create a harmonious and effective system for the work of party, soviet, and economic organs at enterprises and in sectors, rayons, cities, oblasts, and the republic.

A substantial increase in party influence on intensifying the policy of thrift and ensuring the rational utilization of all types of resources is required. It is a question of observing the immutable economic management practice which socialist ownership presupposes. Its essence involves displaying a solicitous attitude to nationwide property and vigorously augmenting it.

Thrifty management has still not become the rule in the work of many ministries, departments, and enterprises.

The slow decline in the materials-intensiveness of output is explained primarily by insufficiently active implementation of materials-saving measures. The Belorussian Council of Ministers should create in the very near future a unified system for planning, recording, and analyzing resource expenditures. It must be a nondepartmental system and operate at every enterprise and in every sector, every region, and the republic as a whole. It is necessary to determine precisely which organ and which department will be responsible for a given avenue of the work to make rational use of resources and reduce materials-intensiveness.

It is necessary to ensure the implementation of the measures we have elaborated for the rational utilization of secondary resources and to achieve by the end of the 5-year plan period the practically total processing of waste within the system of the Belorussian SSR Ministries of the Timber and Wood Processing

Industry, the Forestry Industry, and Light Industry, and the 90-95 percent processing of waste at chemical and petrochemical industry enterprises. It is important to bring secondary fuel and energy resources more actively into economic circulation, and also to make extensive use of the experience of the "Polimir," "Novopolotsknefteorgsintez," and "Azot" associations and the Minsk gear and tractor plants.

The intensification of production cannot be accelerated without updating the productive [aktivnyy] part of fixed assets and developing our own base for machine tool building and means of mechanization for this purpose. This is precisely what is being done at Vitebsk's "Monolit" association, the Minsk motor vehicle, clock and watch, and bearing plants, and some other enterprises.

Virtually all enterprises must participate in the elaboration and manufacture of means of mechanization and automation and specialized technological equipment. Active work instead of waiting — this is what is demanded today from every production collective and every leader. Specific tasks for this purpose have been set for ministries, enterprises, and associations in the recently adopted Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers resolution on machine building.

Certification of the organizational and technical standard of production has been carried out in the republic on the initiative of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. Measures have been elaborated for reequipping enterprises and reducing manual labor from 28 to 22 percent. Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee departments, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, ministries and departments, and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must strictly monitor their implementation.

While ensuring that the total growth of industrial output results from increased labor productivity, it is very important, in parallel with the technical modernization of production, to persistently improve labor organization and norm-setting and the training and retraining of cadres.

Practice confirms that success in the solution of tasks in economic and cultural building depends on the competence and specific attitudes of leadership and the style of party leadership of all aspects of labor collectives' vital work. The Minsk city party organization has accumulated positive experience in this work. Last year the city's industry ensured the entire growth of production output — which, incidentally, was quite high (7 percent) — while reducing the amount of manpower and not increasing the consumption of rolled metals. It must be ensured that everything valuable from the Minsk workers' practice is widely disseminated.

More intensive use must be made of production potential. The normative deadline for starting up capacities is not observed in virtually every second project scheduled for commissioning in the republic. About 60 percent of production units produce less output than envisaged in the design plans. We have the potential to raise the equipment shift index to 1.6-1.7 by the end of the 5-year plan.

Organizational and political education work must be subordinated to the implementation of tasks of increasing industrial production efficiency and the moral and material levers, financial autonomy incentives, and socialist competition must become fully operational.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, its departments, Central Committee Secretary Comrade V.A. Lepeshkin, the republic government, and Comrade A.A. Petrov, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers, must define new approaches toward the leadership of industry. These approaches must be mastered primarily by party, soviet, and economic workers. When evaluating their businesslike qualities we must take into account not only the fulfillment of plan indicators but also the efficiency of the utilization of fixed assets, all types of resources, and work time, and the extent to which technical standards and output quality match the best world examples.

4. Augmenting the Contribution to the Food Program's Implementation

Comrades! During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee directed the efforts of party committees, primary party organizations, soviet and economic organs, and all rural working people toward the Food Program's implementation.

The sum of capital investments channeled into the development of agriculture during the 11th 5-Year Plan was R9.7 billion, which was 16 percent more than during the 10th 5-Year Plan. The capital-labor ratio increased 1.5 times, the availability of capital on kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased by 40 percent, and power availability per worker on kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased by 46 percent. The quantity of mineral fertilizers applied per hectare of field area increased by 14 percent. The level of mechanization in crop farming and stockraising rose.

The conditions of rural working people's labor and daily life have improved, and the volume of construction of housing and other social projects has increased. Expenditure for these purposes amounted to R2 billion, which is 73 percent more than in the previous 5-year plan period. The volume of consumer services increased by 47 percent.

Nevertheless, a comparison of achievements against the funds that were invested shows that the results do not match expenditures. Even though the return on investments increased somewhat during the last 5-year plan period, we cannot be satisfied with the pace of development in agricultural production. The average annual volume of gross output increased by only 8.3 percent; grain production comprised 89 percent of the planned figure, while potato and meat production comprised 92 percent and milk production 95 percent. The 5-year plan for sales to the state was underfulfilled by 69,000 metric tons of potatoes, 390,000 metric tons of meat, and 64,000 metric tons of milk.

This lag can be explained by shortcomings in the work not only of oblast, rayon, and farm cadres, but also of the leadership of the republic Council of Ministers, its apparatus, and Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee departments. They did not

always take prompt measures to accelerate the intensification of production, the improvement of management, and the amelioration of the activity of ministries and departments.

By no means all oblasts produce the same results in their work. Grodno Oblast (Obkom First Secretary Comrade L.G. Kletskov) made more efficient use of material and labor resources during the last 5-year plan period. Its party organization has instituted more effective forms and methods for mobilizing people to raise crop farming standards and intensify stockraising. The oblast fulfilled its 5-year plan for the sale of all types of output to the state, with the exception of livestock and poultry.

The Brest Oblast party organization (Obkom First Secretary Comrade Ye.Ye. Sokolov) is skillfully directing collectives toward accelerating the pace of agriculture's development and transferring stockraising to intensive technology. Average annual gross output on the oblast's kolkhozes and state farms increased by 16 percent. The highest growth of meat production and procurement was secured. Brest Oblast is close to Grodno Oblast in terms of milk yield per cow. The 5-year plan targets were fulfilled for the sale of all types of produce to the state, with the exception of sugar beet.

The restructuring of work in the Mogilev Oblast party organization (Obkom First Secretary Comrade V.S. Leonov) is dragging on. There still are quite a few leaders there who apply outdated methods to the solution of the new and more complex tasks. The oblast failed to fulfill its 5-year plan for the procurement of potatoes, flax fiber, livestock and poultry, milk, and wool.

Comrades! As a result of the persistent and purposeful work done by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and party, soviet, and economic organs over the last few years, the lag that developed at the start of the 5-year plan period has been basically overcome. Technological and executive discipline have been enhanced, the structure of crop farming has been clarified, and material and financial means are being concentrated more on the main avenues of greater efficiency. This made it possible to reach in 1984 the 5-year plan levels for the sale to the state of grain, potatoes, vegetables, sugar beet, milk, and eggs. The target for meat was not met.

The measures that have been taken, coupled with the great assistance rendered by the state, helped to consolidate the financial and economic position of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and 1,471 loss-making farms have become profitable.

Our cadres have overcome the psychological barrier of lack of faith in self-reliance, and have seen for themselves that it is actually possible to make more efficient use of the production and scientific potential. This is a great achievement by the republic party organization. Faith in our people's strength, common sense, talent, and industry, together with reliance on the masses, have been, are, and must always be a fundamental principle of the activity of every party organization.

It is important to consolidate the incipient positive trends and, relying on what has already been achieved, to ensure higher output growth rates. Harvest yields on every farm must be brought into line with the farm's natural and economic conditions, and yields must be no less than one quintal of grain per plowland hectare indexation point [ballogektar]. This demands an active transition to intensive technology resulting by the end of the 5-year plan period in the cultivation of 2 million hectares sown to grain crops yielding 35 quintals per hectare and 300,000 hectares sown to potatoes yielding 250 quintals per hectare. Flax fiber harvest yields should reach 7-8 quintals per hectare. This will make it possible for the republic as a whole to ensure the following harvest yields [per hectare]: 30 quintals of grain crops, 200 quintals of potatoes, and 200-210 quintals of vegetables. Milk yield per cow is to increase to 3,500-4,000 kg, and the average daily weight gain should reach 660-650 grams for cattle for rearing and fattening purposes, and 400-450 grams for hogs.

It goes without saying that these tasks are far from easy and far from simple. They are, however, realistic. The material base for this has been created in our republic, and we have skilled and experienced cadres capable of engaging in economic activity in line with present-day standards. We have people to emulate, people whose experience should be followed. Last year there were 9 rayons which harvested over 30 quintals of grain per hectare: Grodnenskiy, Berestovitskiy, Volkovysskiy, Shchuchinskiy, Nesvizhskiy, Slutskiy, Molodechnenskiy, Kletskiy, and Minskiy. There were 47 farms which produced 40 or more quintals of grain and 300 quintals of potatoes, while 93 farms harvested 8 or more quintals of flax fiber. There were 25 kolkhozes and sovkhozes which achieved milk yields of more than 4,000 kg per cow. Milk yields of between 4,000 and 6,000 kg per cow were achieved by 844 mechanized milking operators, and 32 achieved yields in excess of 6,000 kg. These are the indicators for which every farm and every rayon must aim.

The experience of the frontrankers and of the best kolkhozes and sovkhozes proves convincingly that the main point is to utilize land and assets thriftily, to improve the organization of affairs, and to strictly observe technological demands. Party committees and organizations must work persistently to ensure that all kolkhozes and sovkhozes take the path of intensive development more quickly. It is important to introduce energetically the new and progressive forms of production and labor organization and to seek the best ways to stable high results under any weather conditions.

A high return can and must be produced by drained fields, which represent an area of 2.5 million hectares. Their productivity does not exceed 27 quintals of feed units per hectare compared with the planned 34 quintals. An additional area of 518,000 hectares of fields is to be reclaimed during the 12th 5-Year Plan. The enhancement of the efficiency of the utilization of drained and irrigated fields to planned levels and the unconditional fulfillment of the long-term land reclamation program approved by the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum must provide the main avenue of work by the State Agro-Industrial Committee, the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and the Main Administration for Land Drainage and Construction of State Farms in the Belorussian Polesye.

The further development and strengthening of the feed base is one of the most important tasks for workers in the agro-industrial complex. Feed crop productivity must be raised to 50-60 quintals

of feed units per hectare of plowland and 30-35 quintals of feed units per hectare of pastureland.

Stockraising is to be raised to a qualitatively new level. It is developing extensively on most farms. The intensification of this sector can be achieved only on the basis of the comprehensive solution of feed base questions and the utilization of the achievements of genetic engineering and breeding and of advanced biological methods for the qualitative improvement of the herd.

The transition to the flowline-shop system of milk production must be achieved everywhere during the next 1-2 years, and scientifically substantiated upkeep and feeding of cows must be organized with due consideration for their physiological condition and productivity. It is necessary to clarify intrafarm specialization and to reconstruct stockraising premises. There must be a change in attitude toward the reproduction of the dairy herd, and the rearing of calves in specialized stock units must be organized.

An increase in animal weight gains must be achieved on the basis of the widespread introduction of advanced fattening technology, observance of the requirements of veterinary science, and utilization of frontranking experience. Fuller use must be made of the potential of stockraising specialization and concentration. Many complexes have not yet reached the level of their design indicators; yet they must become models of highly efficient stockraising production on an industrial basis.

During the current 5-year plan period vegetable production must be raised to a level that makes it possible to satisfy the population's vegetable requirements according to scientifically substantiated norms. This requires more vigorous development of the material and technical base of produce storage and processing and a fuller use of the potential of industrial enterprises and other organizations.

While consolidating the public sector in agriculture, it is necessary to build up the output of produce on subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations, and institutions, to show constant concern for the personal subsidiary plots of kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers, and to develop collective orcharding and market gardening.

Party committees and organizations must draw the attention of leaders and specialists on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and in agro-industrial committees and associations to economic questions. It must be ensured that every farm works on the principle of recouping its own expenditure and guarantees expanded reproduction on the basis of its own funds. It is impossible to tolerate the fact that expenditure on many kolkhozes and sovkhozes is in excess of income. The previous 5-year plan period saw increases in the production costs of milk, potatoes, sugar beet, and cattle weight gain. Economic analysis is still not the determining factor of economic decisionmaking everywhere.

It is necessary to institute party monitoring of the question of farm income distribution between accumulation and consumption funds and of the correlation between the rate of labor productivity growth and labor remuneration. All mass political work in team, shop, and stock unit collectives must be closely coordinated with their activity to fulfill financial autonomy targets. Labor remuneration must be made directly dependent on end results.

Lagging farms require unflagging attention. Some of their leaders, while receiving state supplements to procurement prices, make no effort to seek out internal reserves. It is important to ensure that by the end of the 5-year plan period all kolkhozes and sovkhozes show at least 25 percent profitability. Extensive use for this purpose must be made of the initiative and valuable experience of Brest Oblast's frontranking farms in helping economically weak kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Party committees, soviets of people's deputies, and the Belorussian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee must devote more attention to processing sectors. They still constitute a bottleneck, and their material and technical base is weak. It is necessary to build up capacities for the more comprehensive processing of agricultural raw materials and the production of foodstuffs based on potatoes and vegetables, and to increase the production of products from every processed metric ton of meat and milk.

Increased efficiency in agricultural production demands the stepping up of scientific backup for it and the intensification of agrarian science. The most immediate practical task is to develop varieties and hybrids of cereal crops producing harvest yields of 60-90 quintals, and to create a dairy herd with an annual productivity potential of 6,000-7,500 kg of milk, together with a new type of beef cattle and a new line of hogs ensuring an average daily animal weight gain of 1,300 and 800 grams respectively. It is necessary to aim for closer integration of agricultural science and production and consolidation of its experimental sector.

We are entitled to expect effective actions from the republic's State Agro-Industrial Committe and its local organs. They bear the entire responsibility for high end results from the work of the sectors in this complex, for the rational utilization of production potential and all types of resources, and for the expansion of the range and improvement of the quality of foodstuffs.

The task of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department and of party committees and organizations is, without allowing petty supervision or supplanting of agro-industrial complex cadres, to help them concentrate their efforts along the main avenues and assist in affirming everywhere an atmosphere of businesslike efficiency and lofty responsibility.

The Belorussian SSR State Committee for the Protection of Nature and the State Agro-Industrial Committee must elaborate and implement measures for a fundamental improvement in the protection of the environment.

5. Improving the Structure of Capital Investments, Reducing Construction Times, and Improving Construction Quality

Comrades! The draft Basic Guidelines note that the central task of capital construction is the creation and accelerated renovation of the national economy's fixed assets and the fundamental improvement of the construction industry's efficiency. Its imple-

mentation is inseparable from the improvement of investment policy. Output growth must be secured not so much through the construction of new projects but via the technical renovation of existing enterprises. Capital investments channeled in this direction during the 12th 5-Year Plan must be no less than 50 percent of the total.

Many ministries and departments and enterprises under union jurisdiction are still using a large proportion of their appropriations for new construction. Expenditure on reconstruction and retooling in 1985 represented only 35 percent in the republic as a whole, 17 percent in the Ministry of Grain Products (Comrade N.S. Yakushev), 18 percent in the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources (Comrade V.I. Pavlyuchuk), and 28 percent in the Ministry of Communications (Comrade I.M. Gritsuk).

Comrades, drastic changes are needed in investment policy. It is also not possible to tolerate the fact that direct expansion of production disguised as retooling is undertaken. The relative share of construction and installation work as a proportion of total reconstruction expenditure is growing. Presently it stands at 72 percent, including 93 percent in machine building, 89 percent in the construction materials industry, 85 percent in local industry, and 83 percent in light industry.

Substantial improvement is also needed in the technological structure of investments. Construction and installation work accounts for more than half of all capital investment. Even greater expenditure on the creation of nonproductive fixed production assets is planned by a number of ministries, departments, and enterprises for the 12th 5-Year Plan. This demands intervention by the republic government and strict party exactingness.

The dissipation of capital investments has not yet been finally overcome. It must be ensured that the construction and commissioning of projects during the current 5-year plan period take place within the normative deadlines. These are the demands of the draft Basic Guidelines, and we must fulfill them unconditionally. The starting point must be projects whose construction starts this year. Stocks of uninstalled equipment must be brought to normative levels during the next 2 years. The Belorussian SSR Gosplan and Gosstroy, the republic offices of the USSR Stroybank and Gosbank, and the party and soviet organs must adopt a painstaking approach toward the justification of new construction projects.

There must be fundamental improvements in the organization of affairs at all stages and in all links of the construction industry production line. First and foremost, design organizations must shoulder greater responsibility for the soundness of documentation. They must aim to bring down the estimated cost of construction through the use of efficient technological processes, comprehensive mechanization and automation of production, and advanced layout and structural solutions and to reduce future operating costs.

There is a need for the broader introduction of automated design systems. As yet only 12 percent of documentation is prepared in this way. This indicator must double during the current 5-year plan period, and this will require that design organizations be supplied with the appropriate equipment and that designers improve their skills. The solution of these questions is up to the Belorussian SSR Gosstroy and Gosplan.

The industrialization of construction work and the engineering and technological groundwork for production facilities must be raised to a higher level. The question of the further development and better utilization of the construction industry base remains as topical as ever. It is necessary to introduce a truly thrifty attitude toward the utilization of equipment. It has already become a matter of habit for construction industry workers to constantly complain about shortages of machines, fittings, and accessories. There is, of course, still a shortage of many instruments, much equipment, and many means of mechanization. Technical supplies to the sector need further improvement. It is, however, appropriate to recall that, for many years on end, the growth rate of fixed assets for construction purposes has considerably outpaced the growth of the volume of work performed. Machines and devices are used for virtually single-shift work. There is considerable waste on construction sites. What is needed is better economic management, improved organization of affairs, and stronger discipline and order. The Belorussian SSR Gosstroy must expand the experiment which encourages the reduction of material, labor, and financial costs. It is necessary to transfer to new conditions of design and construction for all projects as of 1987.

It is imperative to enhance the quality of construction output everywhere. There still are frequent deviations from designs and breaches of norms and regulations for the acceptance for commissioning of production, social, and cultural projects and roads. One apartment block in five is classified "satisfactory" on handover. It seems that the time has come to get rid of mediocre construction work.

The republic's Gosstroy, Gosplan, Gossnab, and construction ministries and departments must step up their organizational work to fulfill the Comprehensive Program for Enhancing the Efficiency and Quality of Construction Work During the 12th 5-Year Plan. The Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Department, and Central Committee Secretary Comrade Yu.B. Kolokolov personally, must monitor more strictly the implementation of this program.

6. A Precise Rhythm in Transportation Work

The draft new edition of the CPSU Program provides for further development, retooling, and enhanced efficiency in all sectors of the production infrastructure. Particular attention is devoted to the improvement of the transportation network and the creation of a ramified network of good roads.

The operations of the republic's national economic complex were repeatedly hindered during the past 5-year period because of unreliable work by the transportation services. The measures taken in the last few years made it possible to repair the situation somewhat.

Much was done by workers from the Belorussian Communist Party Central Commttee Transport and Communications Department (Comrade I.V. Filatchenkov) to mobilize Commu-

nists and labor collectives to eliminate the shortcomings. They must continue to apply the objective approach. The Central Committee department and the leaders of transportation ministries and departments must focus their attention on the main issue: the stable fulfillment of transportation plans by each enterprise and in terms of all freight categories, and the reduction of delivery costs.

During the 12th 5-Year Plan the growth of freight carrying operations in transport must be achieved with reduced numbers of workers. This means that a resolute offensive must be launched against manual labor.

The Belorussian Railroad's experiment deserves approval. It was planned to increase labor productivity by 18 percent during the course of this experiment in 1985-86 on the basis of people doing more than one job operating more machines, mechanization and automation, and improved organization of labor. About 12,000 people — 11.4 percent of the personnel — have already been released. Labor productivity increased by almost 11 percent last year. At the same time, the Belorussian Railroad failed to achieve any substantial acceleration in railcar turnaround time. There has been virtually no increase in the average speed of freight trains. The proportion of empty runs by the rolling stock has increased. The utilization of trucks has deteriorated.

The elimination of transportation's lagging behind the national economy's requirements is a matter not only for transportation departments but also for all economic organs, enterprises and organizations, and soviets of people's deputies. The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must elaborate measures for the rational utilization of transport. The distribution of shipments must be determined by the lowest possible material expenditure, and primarily by fuel and energy expenditure. It is important to introduce continuous and new specialized types of transportation, such as pipelines, pneumatic containers, conveyors, and others.

It is important to make better use of departmental motor vehicle transport. Relying on existing experience, more resolute steps should be taken toward transferring it to the system of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Motor Transport. As yet this work is being done timidly, unsystematically, and with a lack of purpose.

The accelerated introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress must provide the basis for the development of all types of transport — rail, motor, river, and air — and communications. Of course, one of the paramount tasks of workers in transport and communications is to improve the standard of services for the population. It is very important to ensure trouble-free and uninterrupted transport operations and to make railroad stations, bus stations, and airports more comfortable.

7. Improving the Management of the Economy and Optimizing the Economic Management Machinery

Comrades! During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers implemented a number of measures to improve the leadership of the economy. A master scheme for managing the republic's national economy is being prepared. Work is continuing to further deepen specialization and increase the concentration of production on the basis of the establishment of associations. The targeted program method of planning is being applied on a broader scale.

Nevertheless, many pressing questions concerning the improvement of economic management are still awaiting a solution. The organizational structure of management requires improvement. Its apparatus increased by 28 percent over the last two 5-year plan periods. The number of management personnel in virtually all sectors is rising faster than the total number of workers. Almost half of this growth stems from the introduction of new positions and the creation of additional offices in existing enterprises, organizations, and institutions.

Various intermediate links, such as trusts and administrations, which are essentially appendages of the central apparatus, are functioning in many ministries and departments. There are numerous petty subdivisions, quite often duplicating one another.

The republic Council of Ministers must elaborate and implement a program to improve the organizational structure of the economy's management, to abolish intermediate links, and to effect a transfer to a two-tier system, to management of national economic complexes.

It is necessary to constantly improve associations' operational machinery and to make full use of the advantages of concentration and specialization in order to accelerate scientific and technical progress and improve production organization and technology. It is by no means everywhere that rights and obligations are distributed on a sufficiently substantiated basis between umbrella enterprises and their subordinate enterprises. What is needed are further centralization of planning, accounting, and material and technical supplies and consolidation of associations' scientific and technical subdivisions. There is a need to create and develop intersector associations, which have proved to be a highly efficient form of economic activity.

It is necessary to further enhance the role played by the basic production link — associations and enterprises — and to expand their economic autonomy and their potential in retooling and improving production and in planning, and also to step up economic responsibility for the end results of work.

These questions are being worked out in the process of the economic experiment. At present the enterprises working under these conditions account for about 70 percent of the republic's industrial output. All sectors of the economy are due to be transferred to new conditions in the current 5-year plan period.

Using the experience accumulated in the course of the experiment, it is necessary to develop the methods of economic management that have proved themselves and to seek ways to step up the influence of the economic machinery on the enhancement of production efficiency and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. The main point is to make fuller use of the normative approach, introduce complete financial autonomy more energetically, and transfer more quickly to the system of recouping expenditure.

The Belorussian SSR Gosplan and Council of Ministers are dragging out preparations for the creation of an integral machinery of economic management. It is necessary to speed up the elaboration of proposals on this matter. Constant work must be done to improve the economic machinery. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Economic Department (Comrade G.N. Vecherko) must display more exactingness in ensuring precise and coordinated actions by the Gosplan, the Ministry of Finance, and other economic departments.

The transition to team forms of economic management in industry is due to be basically completed during the current 5-year plan period. In this process efforts must be concentrated on enhancing the efficiency of teams' work. Its is necessary to restructure more actively the planning and accounting of their activity, to organize reliable engineering, material, and technical backup services, and to introduce financial autonomy. As yet these questions are being resolved slowly. Only one-third of workers employed in teams are working under conditions of financial autonomy in industry. This work is particularly unsatisfactory in enterprises under the Ministry of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry (Comrade L.S. Kravtsov) and the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry (Comrade V.L. Bildyukevich) and in the meat and dairy industry sector (former Minister Comrade A.F. Kryukov). It is necessary to expand the team contract system in agriculture, the construction industry, transport, and other sectors of the national economy.

Planning work must be raised to a qualitatively new level. The republic Gosplan, which must become a scientific economic center, must concentrate its attention on resolving key long-term questions and determining the best possible intersector and territorial ratios. The scientific substantiation and balanced nature of plans and their accurate elaboration and coordination from the territorial-sectorial viewpoint are not yet always ensured. There are still instances of downward revision of indicators by individual ministries, departments, or enterprises.

The improvement of planning must be subordinated to the main objective — the achievement of high end results. When finalizing the 12th 5-Year Plan, the Gosplan and ministries and departments must ensure proper balance between all its sections, take maximum account of reserves, and make provision for the rational utilization of labor, material, and financial resources and for tight indicators of production efficiency.

Particular attention must be devoted to the even spread of targets over the 5-year plan period. There must be no repetition of past mistakes, when lower plan figures were set for the initial years, quarters, and months , and higher ones for the closing periods. These instances must be evaluated from a principled party position.

Paramount importance must be attached to the elaboration of plans to introduce the achievements of science and technology. It is necessary to shift from the planning of uncoordinated measures to the plan-based comprehensive technical improvement of production. This part of the plan must provide the basis for the elaboration of all its remaining sections.

More efficient use must be made of computers in management and planning. The 195 computer centers with 28,000 employees operating in the republic have not yet reduced the costs of the management apparatus. The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must define measures to improve the work of these subdivisions and make provision for the preferential development of multi-user computer centers.

The improvement of the machinery of management and economic activity persistently demands a fundamental change in the content, style, and methods of work and a psychological reorientation of management cadres. Party committees and organizations must aim to ensure that every leader has a good mastery of fundamental scientific, technical, and organizational elements of production and is capable of analyzing economic processes in depth and finding ways to achieve high end results. It is necessary to ensure everywhere the unity of political and economic leadership, high standards of organization, businesslike efficiency, competence, discipline, and personal responsibility for entrusted work.

II. Actively Implementing the Party Program in the Sphere of Social Policy and the Shaping of the New Man

1. The Enhancement of People's Prosperity and the Improvement of Their Working and Living Conditions Must Be a Daily Party Concern

The party's precongress documents set the task of raising people's prosperity to a qualitatively new level and ensuring a level and pattern of the consumption of material, social, and cultural goods corresponding most fully to the goals of shaping a harmoniously developed and spiritually rich individual. The volume of resources channeled into the satisfaction of the people's needs is due to double over the next 15 years.

Real per capita incomes and the average monthly wages of workers and employees in the republic are planned to increase by 13.5 percent, and kolkhoz members' earnings are planned to increase by 17-19 percent during the current 5-year plan period. Social consumption funds per capita will increase by 20 percent.

The problem of supplying the population with high-quality commodities and services has acquired urgency in connection with the rapid growth of working people's money incomes. The Comprehensive Program for Developing Consumer Goods Production and the Services Sphere in 1986-2000 envisages a 29-percent increase in output of nonfood commodities by the end of the 5-year plan period, including a 50-percent increase in output of articles for cultural, consumer domestic, and household purposes.

Soviet, economic, and planning organs must make maximum use of reserves for consumer goods production, accelerate the retooling of enterprises, and introduce more actively flexible production processes making it possible to switch production more quickly in line with changes in consumer demand.

Specialized sectors and enterprises are called upon to play the main role in supplying the market with the necessary goods. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Light Industry must organize the output of high-quality textiles, advanced construction materials, and furniture and must substantially improve the work of design

services.

Local industry enterprises must make better use of their potential. Approximately 40 percent of this sector's output is still sold to nonmarket consumers [vnerynochnyy potrebitel]. Local raw materials and industrial waste must be brought into play. At present the share of the output produced from them does not exceed 12 percent. As you can see, reserves do exist; it is only a matter of mobilizing them. The task of enterprises not specializing in consumer goods output is to increase their production to the level of the annual wages fund.

As before, paramount attention must be devoted to improving supplies of foodstuffs to the population. Meat and dairy product sales increased during the 5-year plan period. It is necessary to substantially raise the quality and expand the range of foodstuffs, and shift primarily to factory packaging and prepacked deliveries. In order to resolve these important tasks, the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers and the Belorussian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee must pool the efforts of ministries and departments and of transportation and trading organizations.

Trade and public catering were further developed during the last 5-year plan period. At the same time, quite a few complaints are still made against them. Standards of service are poor. Commodity turnover plans are fulfilled with great difficulty. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers have elaborated measures for the further development of the material and technical base of trade and public catering. The trade network needs specialization and comprehensive rationalization. Technological progress must spread to the sector's backup services — warehousing, refrigeration faciltiies, and transport and loading operations. Public catering must be brought as closely as possible to the places where working people work, study, and relax, and the network of fast-service enterprises must be developed.

Much remains to be done to create a modern and highly developed services sphere. The volume of services is to increase by 50 percent during the current 5-year plan period, and their quality is to improve substantially. People's growing demands for various types of housing, municipal, transportation, consumer, and cultural services must be satisfied more fully. Every enterprise and every organization must provide paid services. This year, all major plants and associations must complete the setting up of consumer service reception desks and, wherever expedient, repair workshops and hairdressing salons. Comprehensive municipal service facilities must be created more quickly in the countryside.

The Central Committee Light Industry and Consumer Goods and Trade and Consumer Services Departments and Belorussian Communist Party obkoms must analyze more deeply and more specifically the work of party committees and soviet and economic organs and must more energetically seek ways to step up party influence on the solution of all these vitally important problems.

A task of particular social importance has been set by the draft new edition of the CPSU Program: to ensure separate housing — be it an apartment or an individual home — for virtually every family by the year 2000. It is planned to commission 24 million square meters of housing in the republic during the current 5-year plan period. More rational use must be made of state funds for housing construction; cooperative and private construction must develop more broadly; the housing stock must be renovated and its maintenance improved; and there must be stricter monitoring of its distribution and use.

The problems of the countryside's social development remain as topical as ever. About 6 million square meters of housing and 9,400 km of hard-surface roads were built there during the last 5-year plan period. The pace that has been set must be not only consolidated but also accelerated. The volume of housing construction in the countryside must increase by more than 20 percent. At least 10 well-appointed apartments per farm must be commissioned on an annual average. Better roads must be laid to all population centers and stock units. A task on the agenda is to complete the comprehensive development of kolkhoz and sovkhoz central precincts with a full complement of social and cultural service projects.

The material base of medical institutions has strengthened over the last few years. Their network will continue to expand in the current 5-year plan period. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Health and its local organs must improve the provision of universal clinical checkups for the population and the prevention of diseases and must decisively enhance the quality of medical services. The role of physical culture and sports in improving people's health must be enhanced. It is important to ensure that they become a daily need for everyone from an early age.

It is necessary to further improve social security and to show more concern for war and labor veterans, invalids, families of dead servicemen and partisans, and the elderly. Party, soviet, and economic organs must constantly keep in view questions concerning the further improvement of the position of mothers and mother and child protection. The population's needs for preschool institutions must be fully satisfied in the most immediate future, and the network of Young Pioneer, work, and sports camps must be expanded.

All these are matters of daily concern for local soviets of people's deputies, labor collectives, trade unions, and other public organizations. But not a single aspect of our people's life must remain outside the focus of attention of party organizations.

2. Linking Ideological Work Closely With Life and Making It Specific and Effective

Comrades! Our most important task is to make full use of the transforming force of Marxist-Leninist ideology in order to accelerate socioeconomic development and fundamentally improve work on working people's ideological and political, labor, and moral education.

The paramount concern of party committees and organizations is the further development of the ideological conviction of Communists and all working people and of their political culture, initiative, and creativity in the struggle to implement the party's plans. To this end it is necessary to make fuller use of the entire arsenal of forms and methods of ideological influence, and above all the system of political studies and economic education, which

embraces about 2.5 million people in the republic.

It is necessary to increase the return on studies and to strengthen their educational and mobilizing influence. They must develop in people a sense of personal involvement in the affairs and concerns of the party and the state and the sense of being the thrifty masters of the country. It is important for propagandists — and there are about 100,000 of them in our republic — to be educators and organizers and together with students to seek and find efficient ways of resolving vital tasks.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department and party committees must straighten out the structure of political and economic education, reduce the proliferation of subjects, and strengthen the continuity of studies. And, most importantly, they must bring them closer to labor collectives' practical problems — as the party organizations of the cities of Minsk and Baranovichi do — by creating schools for the intensification of the economy and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress.

Practice attests that success in education is ensured by the unity of economic, ideological, and organizational work. The measures adopted recently to increase the economy's efficiency and strengthen its social orientation have had a favorable influence on enhancing the effectiveness of ideological and political education. However, not all our cadres have yet acquired the ability to perceive and take into account the economic, social, and moral and political aspects of management. This was shown by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau's examination of the activity of Vitebsk and Mogilev Obkoms, Dzerzhinsk and Kalinkovichi Gorkoms, and other party committees.

The CPSU Central Committee's guideline that ideological work is a matter for the whole party and for every Communist must be more persistently and consistently fulfilled. Unfortunately, this guideline is more often proclaimed than put into practice. Measures to implement the Law on Labor Collectives, integrated political days, open letter days, and regular reports to the population by the personnel of sectors linked with serving people have helped to change the situation. But the potential for improving this work has by no means been exhausted.

A healthy moral and psychological climate in the collective, a businesslike style of work, competence, and decency on the part of the leader, and his ability not to lose sight of the political implications of economic management, that is, of what offers the opportunity to conduct propaganda, persuade people, and conduct agitation not by means of general truisms but by means of work, order, and organization, are effective educational factors.

One of the key lines in education is the consistent assertion of social justice. Party and public organizations have reliable means in this regard. There is irreproachable compliance with Soviet laws and with the norms of the socialist way of life. There is rigorous monitoring of the extent of labor and the extent of consumption. There is publicity in assessing each person's labor contribution. The party demands that every leader and every Communist ensure by his deeds and by his attitude toward people unswerving compliance with the principles of social justice. The peculiarities of the present period oblige us to deal better with the education of working people, especially young people, in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism and with the inculcation of readiness to defend the homeland. Labor collectives and party and public organizations must still more closely strengthen their links with troop units, improve the work of DOSAAF organizations, and instill in young people love for the USSR Armed Forces.

Urgent questions such as the inculcation of high culture in inter-nation relations and of a sense of the Belorussian people's indissoluble unity with the great Russian people and the other fraternal peoples of our multinational motherland must not escape the attention of party committees and organizations. Active participation by the representatives of all nationalities living in the republic in production management and the work of organs of power must be ensured.

Our main patriotic and international duty is to constantly increase the republic's contribution to developing the country's unified national economic complex and the Soviet people's culture.

In order to improve patriotic, class education it is necessary to more vigorously affirm communist ideals, propagandize the Soviet state's historic path, and at the same time step up the denunciation of imperialism and its ideology, policy, and morality. Work in this direction by lecturers, propagandists, scientific staffers, writers, cultural figures, artists, and journalists must be stepped up.

The role of secondary and higher education in educating and training conscious, educated people capable of highly productive labor and of the defense of the homeland should be increased. Comprehensive targeted programs for improving the quality of the educational process, the training of cadres, and the ideological and political, labor, moral, and aesthetic education of young people have been elaborated and are being implemented in the republic. Work to ensure computer literacy on the part of pupils and students is being developed. The conditions for every secondary school graduate to master one of the mass trades are systematically being created. To this end wide use is being made of the network of production and study combines established in the republic and of the material base of vocational and technical schools.

However, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department, party committees and organizations, and public education organs are still not showing due persistence in implementing the measures elaborated in connection with school reform. No serious changes have occurred in the content of the educational process. The Belorussian SSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, Ministry of Education, and State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, local public education organs, and party committees must focus their efforts on its all-around improvement and consolidation.

The most important thing is to mold in the rising generations, while they are still at school or at a VUZ, high political culture, a creative aspiration toward the new, and the desire and readiness

to work conscientiously and highly professionally. As well as acquiring a broad technical outlook, the future specialists and young workers must master modern methods of creating and manufacturing high-quality output.

Together with the Belorussian SSR Gosplan, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the Ministry of Education, and State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education must in the very near future elaborate a system for the regional and sectorial planning of the training and utilization of mass trade cadres and specialists. It is necessary to introduce more widely targeted forms of instruction and scientifically based methods of assessing the professional suitability of applicants during admission to educational establishments and the assignment of their graduates. Life also demands the creation in the republic of an integrated system for improving the qualifications of and retraining cadres on the basis of the leading VUZes.

Literature and art play a growing role in shaping Soviet people's spiritual world, lofty civic stance, and esthetic tastes. A number of works of literature, music, painting, and cinematography have been created in the republic during the last few years which have gained recognition by the people. The subject of heroism is being successfully developed. Creative young people are making themselves known with increasing confidence. The ties between literature and art and social practice are strengthening. Nevertheless, they do not always provide an in-depth reflection of whatever perturbs their contemporaries. Quite a few artistically weak works still appear. This is a matter of serious concern for us.

What is needed today are talented works using living and memorable imagery to reveal the moral and political sources of Soviet people's innovative aspirations and actions. We are talking about the creative intelligentsia's active participation in people's education, in the reorientation of their mentality toward working in the new style, and in the development of everyone's sense of duty and responsibility.

Great importance here is attached to class perspicacity, implacability toward bourgeois ideology, politics, and morals, impeccable mastery of the methods of socialist realism, and high standards of political and philosophical thinking by creative workers.

Great reserves for economic and moral advancement lie in the sensible use of free time. Our people's leisure is becoming more interesting and more diverse. However, today there are only a few isolated examples of the application of the new forms of mass-cultural and health-oriented physical culture work. What is needed is a qualitative restructuring of the entire leisure sphere and the strengthening of its material base. This, in turn, demands the pooling of the potential and energy of culture and sports institutions and of economic, trade union, and Komsomol organizations.

The increased tasks of ideological, political, and moral education must be resolved in the new fashion. It is necessary to free mass political and cultural enlightenment work more rapidly from formalism, declamation, and the substitution of bureaucratic administration for living work with people.

The fruitfulness of education depends largely on the acuteness of our reaction to any violations of our moral norms. It is necessary to ensure that the experience of people in Novopolotsk in strengthening the moral-political climate in labor collectives and involving unemployed people [nezanyatyye lyudi] in socially useful labor — experience approved by the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee — is introduced everywhere.

Following the passing of the new anti-alcohol laws, party committees and organizations, labor collectives, and mass news organs launched a more objective and more resolute struggle against the ugly phenomenon of drunkenness. This enjoys our people's approval and support and has a positive effect on the moral climate in society, in production, and in daily life. But the attention devoted to these matters is slack in many places. The force of law and measures of disciplinary, administrative, and social influence are not always used against drunkards. There must be consistent and firm implementation of the line of overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism, eliminating the shortcomings existing in this work, and firmly establishing the healthy and sober way of life. It is necessary to enhance the personal responsibility of the leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs and trade union and Komsomol organizations for the unconditional execution of the party and government directives on struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism and for the strengthening of discipline, organization, and order.

More attention must be devoted to questions such as strengthening the family and enhancing its role in and responsibility for the upbringing of children. Sensible use must be made here of existing socioeconomic potential, public opinion, literature, and art. Of course, Communist parents must be held more strictly to task for the moral climate within the family and children's upbringing.

We expect more from social scientists when it comes to interpreting the theoretical and practical problems of our society's development at the present stage, the shaping of personality, and the organization of educational work. Quite a few works appear in print, but by no means are all of them distinguished by profound analysis, fresh thinking, and substantiated conclusions. There is too much description and scholastic deliberation. It is necessary to raise the theoretical standard of research work and strengthen the ties between social scientists and production collectives.

People's consciousness is increasingly affected by the mass news media. Their base has strengthened over the last few years. The construction of a new television center is approaching completion and television transmitters have been boosted. A republic television program has been established. The contents of newspapers, journals, and books are improving. The mass news media must concentrate their efforts on the main avenues of social life and must enhance the effect they have on people through political clarity, purposefulness of statements, depth of meaning, greater flexibility, extensive news coverage, vividness, and accessibility.

Experienced and knowledgeable workers must staff all sectors of propaganda and agitation, education, culture, and mass news. There must be further improvements in the system for their training and retraining on the basis of the enhanced demands made by the party in terms of their ideological and theoretical

standard, professional skill, and ability to lead people.

To put it briefly, extensive, painstaking, and responsible work lies ahead along all avenues of ideological, political, labor, and moral education. In the process of improving this work, it must be borne in mind that the basic criterion of the efficiency of educational efforts is the enhanced consciousness of people and their readiness to resolve persistently and skillfully the tasks set by the party.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department (Comrade S.Ye. Pavlov) must analyze in greater depth the processes occurring in the socioeconomic, spiritual, and moral life of labor collectives, must display greater initiative in restructuring propaganda and mass political work, must be more exacting toward ideological departments and services, and must intensify its monitoring of their activity. Comrade A.T. Kuzmin, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, must be more persistent in the implementation of measures to improve ideological work and enhance its efficiency.

Comrades! The situation in the world remains tense through the fault of imperialist circles and primarily the United States. The CPSU, expressing the will of the Soviet people, firmly and purposefully follows a principled course of averting the nuclear threat and of developing international relations in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and detente. The attention of peoples from all continents is focused on the profoundly well-argued Soviet peace initiatives set out in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In this document, which is a landmark in the struggle for lasting and universal peace, the CPSU and the Soviet state have put forward a program for totally eliminating nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000 and ensuring reliable security for present and future generations. Mikhail Sergeyevich's statement encountered ardent approval and universal support in the republic.

Life imperatively demands that each of us augment with our shock labor our contribution to the strengthening of the country's economic and defense potential and its lofty international prestige. Questions of participation in international cooperation must be resolved effectively and from clear-cut class positions; targets within the framework of socialist economic integration must be fulfilled promptly; and friendly ties with the fraternal socialist countries must be deepened.

III. Party Organizational Work Must Be Equal to the New Tasks

1. Improving Party Leadership of All Spheres of Life

Soviet society's entry into a new stage marking a turning point in its development makes higher demands on the standard of political leadership and organizational activity on the part of all party components. Lenin's words that the new situation demands not just a simple repetition of memorized formulas and slogans but also "initiatives, mental flexibility, inventiveness and independent work on an **original** historical task" (V.I. Lenin. *Complete Collected Works*, Vol 19, p 82) have a particularly topical ring today.

The Leninist style of work is a reliable means for achieving the set goal. This is emphasized with renewed force in the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April and October (1985) Plenums and in all recent party documents. The components of this style — specificity and businesslike efficiency, objectivity in evaluating achievements and in determining ways to overcome shortcomings, purposefulness and consistency, and organization and extensive publicity — are being established with increasing persistence in the activity of all Belorussian Communist Party components. This was promoted to a large extent by Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, obkom, gorkom, and raykom plenums and party meetings in all organs of management and in the republic's labor collectives devoted to this issue.

Some time ago the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee voiced serious complaints against the Brest party obkom because of omissions in the utilization of production potential. It is to the oblast party organization's credit that, as has already been noted, it managed to restructure its organizational and political work to a large extent, which made it possible to encourage people to make better use of reserves and potential. The oblast has taken a significant step forward.

A systematic and creative approach toward the solution of problems distinguishes the Grodno Obkom, the Volkovysk Gorkom (First Secretary Comrade M.V. Zhebrak), the Baranovichskiy Raykom (Comrade N.V. Domenikan), the Dokshitskiy Raykom (Comrade N.I. Ustin), and the Stolbtsovskiy Raykom (Comrade M.I. Rovdo). Recently this approach became more clearly noticeable in the activity of the Minsk and Gomel Belorussian Communist Party Obkoms.

But restructuring has not occured everywhere. Not all party committees are persistent in improving the forms and methods of work. There is an unjustifiable lack of attention to this matter at the Tolochinskiy Belorussian Communist Party Raykom (First Secretary Comrade V.P. Minin). The rayon's natural and economic conditions are among the best in the Vitebsk region, and earlier it occupied front-ranking positions in the oblast and the republic. The last few years, however, have seen a serious drop in the development of agricultural production. In comparison with 1976, harvest yields have fallen for grain crops (from 31.3 to 25.5 quintals), flax fiber (from 8.6 to 6.2 quintals), and potatoes (from 137 to 130 quintals). Milk yields have fallen, animal weight gains have declined, and production costs have risen. During the last 5-year plan period the rayon failed to fulfill its plans for sales to the state of potatoes, flax fiber, meat, and milk.

There is no clear-cut system in the party raykom's work, which is dominated by a superficial and not always competent approach to the utilization of existing potential to boost the output of agricultural produce. Responsibility for this lies with the Vitebsk party obkom and its secretaries, Comrades Ye.I. Radetskiy and T.I. Misuno, who failed to analyze the rayon's affairs in depth and in practice tolerated its lagging.

Some Belorussian Communist Party gorkoms and raykoms lack a self-critical attitude toward achieved results, overemphasize their successes, and obscure omissions. They are slow to overcome the supplanting of soviet and economic organs, conservatism in thinking, inertia, stereotyped approaches toward

leadership, and obsolete methods of leadership. To a greater or lesser extent this is typical of the Drogichinskiy Belorussian Communist Party Raykom (First Secretary Comrade B.V. Osovtsov), Svislochskiy Raykom (Comrade I.K. Yarmoshchuk), Smolevichskiy Raykom (Comrade V.S. Chechko), Khotimskiy Raykom (Comrade V.A. Prudnikov), Sennenskiy Raykom (Comrade N.F. Domashkevich), and Gomel's Zheleznodorozhnyy Raykom (former First Secretary Comrade L.V. Astraukh).

It is necessary to shift from "general" leadership to specific leadership. Particular emphasis must be placed on work with people and on the ability to organize and run affairs. Fewer words, assurances, and promises; more weighty and tangible results!

During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee enhanced the role and responsibility of state and public organizations and strove to ensure that every one of them — be they soviet, trade union, or Komsomol organizations — tackled its own affairs and made full use of the rights and powers vested in it.

The soviets of people's deputies now bear greater responsibility for the elaboration and implementation of comprehensive plans for economic and social development. The trade unions have improved the working people's involvement in the solution of economic and management tasks. The work of Komsomol organizations has been galvanized.

However, many state organs and public organizations are still functioning sluggishly and without initiative. They often hide behind the backs of party committees and shift on to them their direct responsibilities.

Many rayispolkoms, primarily Beshenkovichskiy, Ivatsevichskiy, Kalinkovichskiy, Kruglyanskiy, Myadelskiy, and Oshmyanskiy, have yet to overcome the superficial approach to the resolution of tasks in economic and cultural building.

The soviets of people's deputies must find their position in the reconstruction and retooling of enterprises and must ensure that changes for the better occur not only in the technical nature of production but also in the employees' working and living conditions. There must be unflagging monitoring by deputies of the construction of housing, schools, hospitals, other projects for social and cultural purposes, and roads. The soviets must make a greater contribution to the organization of consumer goods production, the Food Program's fulfillment, and the restructuring of the countryside.

The Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers must channel the efforts of local soviets and economic organs more objectively toward the prompt discovery and utilization of existing reserves and potential for the republic's socioeconomic development. Not all ministries and departments have fully abandoned administrative-bureaucratic methods of leadership. For example, many staffers of the Belorussian SSR Ministry of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry cannot see important problems of the sector's development from behind piles of paperwork.

Life persistently demands improvements in the work of people's control organs. They must be more efficient in verifying the execution of party and state directives, preventing shortcomings, and taking a resolute stance against everything that harms the cause. Party committees and organizations must give constant assistance and support to people's control organs.

During the period under review, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee took resolute measures to further strengthen socialist legality and law and order and to eliminate serious shortcomings in the activity of some law enforcement organs. Comrade G.N. Zhabitskiy was relieved of his duties as Belorussian SSR minister of internal affairs, and Comrade A.I. Mogilnitskiy was relieved of his duties as republic prosecutor.

At the same time, law enforcement organs are still inadequately efficient in the struggle against criminal behavior. The political sections of internal affairs organs have still not found their place in this work. Militia, prosecutor's office, court, and administration of justice staffers must vigilantly guard Soviet laws, the interests of the state, and the rights of the working people. Party committees must show constant concern for the expansion of ties between law enforcement organs and the public and labor collectives.

The Belorussian Trade Union Council Presidium, oblast trade union councils, and many sector trade union committees still look only superficially into the affairs of grassroots organizations. They often perform only inspection functions with regard tothese organizations and give them little specific assistance. Trade union organizations must enhance the efficiency of socialist competition and free it of the habits of formalism and bureaucracy. Labor rivalry must be channeled toward labor productivity growth and improved output quality, prompt performance of contractual obligations, introduction and assimilation of new equipment, and rational utilization of work time and all types of resources. Moral incentives must be more fully applied. The trade unions, together with soviet and economic organs, must show daily concern for the satisfaction of people's social and cultural needs and for their health, rest, and leisure.

The activity of many Komsomol committees and organizations is being restructured only slowly. The Belorussian Komsomol Central Committee Bureau is largely to blame for this. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Party Organizational Work, Propaganda and Agitation, Science and Education Establishments, and Culture Departments also bear responsibility for this.

In improving leadership of Komsomol organizations, it is important not to allow excessive tutelage of them and to encourage initiative and independent action. The energy and ardent intellect of young men and women must be oriented toward the resolution of specific national economic tasks. There should be more effective concern with the school Komsomol and Young Pioneer and other organizations of pupils and young students.

The republic Communist Party Central Committee inseparably links the improvement of the standard of leadership of state, economic, and cultural building with the further improvement of work with cadres. This key problem was discussed in detail at the 3d and 22d Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee

Plenums and is constantly examined by the Bureau and Secretariat. Party committees have elaborated and are implementing long-term plans for training and retraining cadres at every level. Reports from Communist leaders and conversations with them on the fulfillment of statutory and professional obligations and party decisions and assignments have become a rule. The role of certification of specialists is growing and the significance of testimonials is intensifying.

In implementing the Leninist principles of the selection, deployment, and education of cadres it is necessary to take account of their political outlook, business and moral qualities, professionalism and practical experience, ability to ensure effective management and harmonious work by collectives in the sector entrusted to them, and ability to match what has been done to the tasks to be resolved.

The slightest manifestations of complacency and negligence must not be tolerated. It is necessary to resolutely eliminate what V.I. Lenin described as dereliction, negligence, shoddiness, laxness, nervous precipitateness, and a tendency to substitute discussion for action and talk for work. The question is being posed today in the following way: People who cannot reorient themselves and are incapable of following the dialectics of present-day life in all its depth and complexity must make way for more vigorous workers with solid knowledge and good organizational abilities.

The republic party organization is concerned with ensuring that promising young workers work, gain experience, and acquire the necessary political and business tempering alongside tested cadres. The leadership of individual oblasts, a number of cities and rayons, and many labor collectives has been strengthened recently. More women are being promoted to responsible sectors. They account for more than one-third of party gorkom and raykom secretaries.

It is well known that the creation of a reliable reserve is the fundamental basis in work with cadres. However there are still considerable shortcomings and mistakes in shaping such a reserve. Random people are often added to the reserve. The result is that it exists on paper, but sometimes there is no one to promote. Such shortcomings are inherent in the Braginskiy, Brestskiy, Kirovskiy, Lioznenskiy, and Smorgonskiy Raykoms.

Great specificity and a systematic approach is required in work with cadres. The questionnaire [anketnyy] approach is intolerable when appointing a person to a given post. What is important is not a general knowledge of what the worker is like but a detailed clarification of how suitable he is for precisely the position in question and how knowledgeable and authoritative he is in the field being entrusted to him.

It important to step up the attention devoted to management cadres. People lacking adequate experience or competence often find their way into ministries, departments, and their subdivisions. Party organizations must display more concern for middle-level cadres. It is disquieting that every fourth team and livestock unit on kolkhozes and sovkhozes is headed by people without specialized education. There is a particularly high proportion of such people in Mogilev and Minsk Oblasts. This is also a topical problem for industry, construction, and the services sphere. Its solution should be tackled more persistently and consistently.

It is necessary to display a totally principled approach to assessing leaders' moral makeup and get rid of people who embark on the path of deception of the state and money-grubbing, who are disrespectful toward people, and who flout our moral norms. The following raykom secretaries were fired for these reasons: P.S. Bagino in Mozyrskiy Rayon, D.P. Krasovskiy in Polotskiy Rayon, Yu.V. Meshcherov in Dyatlovskiy Rayon, and A.I. Setevinets in Shchuchinskiy Rayon. Every Communist must bear a dual responsibility for misdemeanors he commits — to the law and to his party comrades. The shielding of leaders from their criticism — and instances of this kind do occur — is intolerable. Liberalism must not be displayed toward people who are out of step with discipline or abuse their position. The Party Organizational Work Department and Comrade G.G. Bartoshevich, second secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, must display a more profound and principled approach to the selection, deployment, and education of cadres.

Cadres are a key element in party work. The attention of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms has been and must remain centered on this question.

2. Strengthening the Party Ranks and Developing Intraparty Relations

Relying on statutory norms and the CPSU's demands, the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has achieved an increase in party organizations' militancy and has developed and deepened intraparty relations.

The new edition of the Program and the amendments being made to the CPSU Statutes will promote the intensification of the party's leading and directing role. Their essence lies, on the one hand, in further expanding intraparty democracy and developing the initiative and activeness of Communists and all party organizations, and first and foremost primary organizations, and, on the other, in increasing their responsibility for the resolution of common matters. These changes serve to increase the CPSU member's prestige, title, and significance. They take account of time-tested party building practice. At the same time they enrich the statutes with new provisions in keeping with the demands of the times and Communists' wishes. Some formulations have been made more specific.

The Belorussian Communist Party — one of the CPSU's militant detachments — includes 668,000 Communists. More than three-fourths of them work in the sphere of material production. In the last 5 years over 100,000 people have been admitted to the party. Some 57.5 percent of them are workers.

The approach to admissions to the CPSU must be strict and exacting. Haste and superficiality are sometimes tolerated, however. This was shown, in part, by the recent Central Committee Bureau discussion of the Svetlogorsk Gorkom's work to increase and strengthen party ranks. There, as in a number of other places, the qualitative aspect is overlooked and consideration is not always given to the specific characteristics of labor collectives,

particularly those where the intensification of party influence is particularly necessary.

Concern for the purity and strength of party ranks is our prime duty. Communists' responsibility for the objectivity of recommendations [for admission to the party] must be increased and new recruits must be helped in their ideological and political growth. It is important to make fuller use of the educational potential of the period as a candidate member and schools for young Communists and of the tremendous life experience of party veterans.

It is necessary to enhance in every possible way primary party organizations' role in molding high ideological and political and moral qualities in party members. There are over 15,000 such organizations in the Belorussian Communist Party. Fruitful work is carried out by the party organizations of the Minsk electrical equipment plant, Vitebsk's special design bureau for gear-cutting, polishing, and grinding machine tools, the Mogilev ribbon factory, the "Gomelpromstroy" construction and installation association, the "Progress" kolkhoz in Grodnenskiy Rayon, the "Parakhonskiy" sovkhoz in Pinskiy Rayon, Minsk's "Belarus" department store, Secondary School No 10 in the city of Gomel, and many others.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has displayed constant concern for strengthening primary party organizations' influence on resolving the tasks of economic and cultural building and people's education. During the period under review, the activity of 28 of them was analyzed in the Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat. The implementation of the adopted resolutions helped to improve their work.

However, certain party organizations poorly influence affairs in labor collectives and make insufficient use of the right granted to them to monitor the administration's activity and the work of the apparatus. As yet not all production subunits have party formations. There are no party groups in one in three teams in industry and one in five in construction. There are no Communists in one in seven livestock units.

Certain party committees are lax in helping primary party organizations to restructure their work and resort to the overregulation of work, which fetters initiative and reduces Communists' activeness. This is characteristic of Ivyevskiy, Petrikovskiy, Chausskiy, and Chashnikskiy party raykoms.

Central Committee departments and Belorussian Communist Party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms must improve leadership of primary party organizations, whose range of rights and functional duties is considerably expanded by the changes being made to the CPSU Statutes.

Communists' meetings and party committee plenums must be a real platform for collective opinion and a school of education. There is still much formalism in holding them. Criticism is often one-sided. There is plenty of it from above and almost none from below — of Bureau members and party committee secretaries. Many plenums of Polotsk Gorkom and Zhabinkovskiy, Dyatlovskiy, Krasnopolskiy, Kormyanskiy, and Minsk's Tsentralnyy Raykoms are held in that kind of atmosphere.

It is necessary to seek to ensure that critical analysis of activity is established everywhere and that any lack of objectivity in assessments of what has been achieved is totally eliminated. Cadres are correctly educated only in an atmosphere of criticism and self-criticism, bolshevik frankness, and a universal orientation toward constantly seeking potential and reserves for increasing production efficiency. Criticism must be businesslike, specific, and constructive and must help people to get rid of shortcomings. This can be achieved only if every criticism and useful proposal is immediately followed by a response. The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms must struggle more resolutely against those who do not brook criticism and persecute people for it. The possibility envisaged by the CPSU Statutes of criticizing not only any Communist but also any party organ at party meetings, conferences, congresses, and committee plenums will help improve matters.

The party teaches us to closely and carefully heed the opinions and mood of Communists and all working people. Letters are one source of such information. In the last 5 years the republic's party committees received 370,000 letters. They contained many valuable proposals, pieces of advice, and wishes. Many of them prompted the adoption of appropriate decisions. At the same time slanderers must be unmasked and brought to book.

All omissions, wherever they are discovered, have a common denominator: the absence of monitoring and precise verification of execution. Each year Bobruysk Belorussian Communist Party Gorkom heard reports from the party committee and leadership of the "Bobruyskshina" association. But the resolutions that were adopted were not backed up with specific organizational work. There is still much mismanagement at the enterprise, and labor discipline is faltering. The 5-year plan target for production volume was not fulfilled. It is necessary to ensure that monitoring is preventive, exacting, and profound and is carried out systematically and in a timely fashion, from above and below simultaneously. The role of the secretariats of the Central Committee and of Belorussian Communist Party obkoms and also of party commissions must be enhanced here.

The system of party information needs to be restructured. Information must be accurate and must totally rule out self-praise and window dressing. Anodyne and laudatory reports prompt incorrect assessments and erroneous judgments. Correct decision-making requires specific and objective analysis of events.

The creation of an atmosphere of businesslike efficiency and lofty exactingness depends on all members of an elected organ, and particularly on the party committee's first secretary. He must be modest, fair, and smart, must skillfully organize people for the solution of complex tasks, and must honestly and openly admit defects and mistakes if they occur.

Comrades! The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee has rigorously adhered to the principle of collective leadership. There were 25 Central Committee plenums and 22 republic aktiv meetings during the period under review. The Central Committee Bureau examined various aspects of the activity of all obkoms, 24 party gorkoms and raykoms, and a number of ministries and departments and public organizations. The best

experience of party organizations was continuously generalized. The Central Committee Secretariat concentrated its efforts on monitoring the execution of adopted decisions.

The Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and its Bureau and Secretariat strove to ensure that the Central Committee apparatus and departments established a party-minded analytical and creative approach toward problems of economic and cultural building and people's education. This line must be continued even more persistently in the future.

The report and election campaign held on the eve of the congress demonstrated the lofty organization and cohesion of Communists, the militancy of party organizations, and their mood for the successful implementation of the course set by the party. There was considerable renovation of elected party organs. Workers, kolkhoz members, and women are respresented more broadly on them, and the national composition of party organizations has been taken more fully into account.

The CPSU's precongress documents had an enormous effect on the course of the report and election campaign and on the republic's entire sociopolitical life. The widespread and keen discussion of these documents everywhere was of a creative nature. The discussion was closely linked with the solution of current and long-term tasks and helped to boost working people's initiative and activeness.

More than 4 million people took part in the discussion of the precongress documents. They submitted almost 13,000 proposals and suggestions. Party committees and the editorial offices of republic newspapers and journals received about 4,000 letters expressing unanimous support for the drafts of the new edition of the CPSU Program, the changes to the CPSU Statutes, and the Basic Guidelines.

On the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress, common concerns and identical aspirations with the party and the country characterize the life and work of the republic's working people. Eloquent proof of this is provided by the weighty results of the precongress shock labor vigil. We must consolidate and augment the labor eagerness and ardent enthusiasm of the masses. The talent, skills, experience, and knowledge of the republic's working class, kolkhoz peasantry, and intelligentsia must be made to serve the new 5-year plan.

Allow me, on behalf of the 30th Belorussian Communist Party Congress delegates and all Communists to assure the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee that the Belorussian Communist Party and all working people in the republic will make a worthy contribution to the acceleration of our socialist motherland's socioeconomic development.

Central Auditing Commission Holds Meeting 18 Feb

PM181705 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 86
First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Auditing Commission"]

[Text] A meeting of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission was held 18 February at which the commission's report to the 27th CPSU Congress and also a draft new statute on the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, which is to be submitted to the forthcoming party congress, were examined and approved.

Gromyko Hands Out Awards at Kremlin Ceremony

LD182358 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1800 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today in the Kremlin conferred the highest state awards upon a group of recipients. Hero of Socialist Labor (Motornyy), chairman of the Korov kolkhoz in the Belozerskiy Rayon of Kherson Oblast and Popov, team leader of a timber procurement brigade of the Komsomolskoye timber farm of the Tyumenlesprom association, recieved Orders of Lenin and second Hammer and Sickle Gold Medals. (Rodchenko), captain of the scientific expedition ship *Mikhail Somov* of the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, and (Chelengarov), head of the rescue expedition on the icebreaker *Vladivistok*, received Orders of Lenin and Gold Star Medals of the Hero of the Soviet Union. (Lyalin), commander of the helicopter section, who was also granted this award, is now in the Antarctic. The Order of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle Gold Medal of the Hero of Socialist Labor were conferred upon Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Comrade Gromyko warmly congratulated the recipients. He expressed confidence that these esteemed awards, received on the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress, would serve as an inspiring stimulus in their labor in the name of the further development of our Soviet state and the raising of the welfare of the people.

The recipients of the awards expressed cordial gratitude for the high evaluation of their work.

PRAVDA Lauds Merits of Soviet Democracy

PM181508 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 86
First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Humanism of Soviet Democracy"]

[Excerpt] Soviet people are approaching the 27th CPSU Congress aware of the demands of the time and are shifting the emphasis to practical matters. Now that complex and large-scale tasks are being resolved, it is important to raise people's conscious interest in the results of still more lofty work and to improve its quality. The humanism of our democracy requires the development of criticism and self-criticism and the vigorous utilization of tools such as publicity in the interests of pooling the creative efforts of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the intelligentsia and enriching their political standards.

The struggle to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development is inseparable from the improvement of socialist democracy and the further strengthening of the Soviet state. As the nucleus of society's political system, the CPSU is constantly concerned with improving the activity of soviets — the main component in the people's socialist self-management — and does a great deal to improve the activeness of trade unions, the Komsomol, and other mass organizations.

In building up our economic and spiritual potential, the development of democratic initiatives in areas where people work — production — is of particular importance. The influence of worker collectives on the state of affairs and people's education has now increased, and their interest in discussing and adopting important decisions and working out and implementing enterprises' plans has grown. Skillfully utilizing the machinery that safeguards working people's rights, all labor collectives must at the same time create an atmosphere in which each person can work productively and with the highest return.

In educating the country's citizens in a spirit of clear understanding of the unity of their rights, freedoms, and duties, the CPSU strengthens the humanist nature of socialist democracy and creates the best conditions for molding an active life stance in each person, a stance, which, like a laser beam, draws together all aspects of people's patriotism, internationalism, spiritual wealth, and forward-looking approach and enhances their responsibility for the implementation of the party's domestic and foreign policy.

Our democracy and its humanism are reflected in the new Soviet initiatives. They indicate real factors for asserting the prime right of all peoples — the right to a peaceful life and the creation of conditions for the continuation of the human race and the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe.

Enjoying the fruits of socialist democracy, Soviet people reaffirm again and again their adamant fidelity to its principles and resolutely reject various kinds of recommendations to "improve" our way of life in line with bourgeois standards and models. Soviet democracy has its own traditions and its own criteria of freedom and humanism. Being genuinely popular and just, it is incompatible with any manifestations of chauvinism, nationalism, racism, or anti-Semitism. Our democracy stands guard over the interests of all the country's peoples — large or small — and defends their equality and freedom.

K. Marx called communism real humanism. Today his ideals are reflected increasingly fully and profoundly in our aspiration to achieve a qualitatively new state of society, in raising people's responsibility for strengthening its moral health, and in the concern for each person's prosperity and spiritual development. Propagandizing the humanist ideals of socialist democracy is one of the tried and tested means of ensuring the class tempering of all Soviet people and strengthening their civic maturity, discipline, and organization. At the same time it is also a powerful weapon for party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations in the struggle against the "values" engendered by bour-

geois democracy. Our way of life opposes any attempts to belittle people or destroy them as individuals by using the violence and terror which flourish in the so-called "free" world.

Consistently implementing the humanist principles of Soviet democracy, the CPSU is developing the people's socialist self-management. This is the guarantee of our society's successful progress toward communism.

Persecution on Minority Population Refuted

PM181417 [Editorial Report] Moscow *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA* in Russian on 13 February publishes on page 3 under the heading "In a Single Family" a 1,500-word article, datelined Tashkent, by dramatist Bakhriddin Nasriddinov who states that during trips abroad he has seen "how miserly is the information — or, to be more precise, how perfidious is the misinformation — which even civilized people have of the life of the Soviet peoples and their labor, daily life, and culture." Having cited examples of this "misinformation" and denied claims that Jews in the Central Asian republics are persecuted, Nasriddinov goes on to describe the development of culture in Soviet Uzbekistan and to deny "stories that in our country discrimination is practiced against representatives of 'minority nations.'"

The article then refutes allegations that "people from the Muslim population in the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan actively refused to join the struggle against the fascist invaders during the Great Patriotic War because of their religious convictions," pointing out that many Uzbeks were awarded orders and medals in the war.

During his theatrical career, Nasriddinov concludes, he has frequently met with other artists and exchanged opinions and argued with them about artistic matters. How, then, "can one fail to be indignant at the impudent lies of the bourgeois ideologists, their Zionist lackeys and their ilk about the violations of human rights allegedly occurring in our country and the injustices allegedly perpetrated in our country against representatives of minority peoples?"

Shcherbitskiy, Voronin Address Aktiv Meeting

PM181529 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Feb 86 p 1

[TASS report: "Red Banners for the Winners"]

[Excerpt] The winners of the all-union socialist competition for the successful fulfillment of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1985 and the targets of the 11th 5-Year Plan and for a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress include Kiev and Minsk, Gorkiy and Sverdlovsk Oblasts, and the Gorno-Altay Autonomous Oblast. On 14 February they were presented with CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banners.

Kiev: In the last 5-year plan the Ukraine, as a member of the united family of Soviet republics, took a large step foward in economic, scientific, and cultural development and in the improvement of the people's well-being. For the first time the rate of growth in national income exceeded the rate of increase in capital investments, and the entire increase was due to improved labor productivity.

At a republican party economic aktiv meeting the lofty award was presented by L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and other speakers noted that the motherland's award creates an obligation to seek new reserves in order to increase the republic's contribution to strengthening the country's economic might. Most labor collectives have made a good start to the first year of the 12th 5-Year Plan, but a number of enterprises in machine building, the coal industry, and some other sectors have yet to find a steady work rhythm. The meeting discussed tasks linked to the fulfillment of the republic's plan and socialist pledges for 1986. The meeting adopted a resolution stressing the need to actively support and develop working people's creative initiative and involve them on a wide scale in competition for high end results in labor.

Commission To Investigate Sinking of Cruise Liner

LD181231 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] The Soviet minister of merchant marine, Timofey Gu zhenko, has said a special commission was formed in the USSR to invstigate the reasons of the sinking of the Soviet cruise liner *Mikhail Lermontov*. Last Sunday the ship, with a pilot on board, struck reefs and sank off the coast of New Zealand. All the 408 passengers were rescued. One of the 330 crew members is missing. This is the first incident of this kind that occurred in the Soviet cruise fleet in many decades, the minister said.

A British company had an agreement with Mikhail Lermontov for accommodating passengers. Its leadership sent a cable noting the courage and presence of mind displayed by the crew when saving the passengers.

Changes in Ukrainian Council of Ministers Reported

Kulinich to Gosagroprom

AU181330 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Ukrainian Supreme Presidium has relieved Comrade N.F. Kulinich of the duties of Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman in connection with his appointment to the post of deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom].

New Deputy Chairman

AU180831 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to appoint Comrade Georgiy Vasilyevich Dzis Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman.

[Signed] V. Shevchenko, chairman, and N. Khomenko, secretary of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Kiev city, 10 February 1986

Born in 1926, Georgiy Vasilyevich Dzis has been a CPSU member since 1954, and by profession he is a mechanical engineer. He began his working life as a senior mechanic at a machine and tractor station. Having graduated from the Light Industry Technological Institute in Kiev in 1950, he worked as a mechanic, an institute lecturer, a chief engineer, and director of a machine and tractor station. Since 1958, he has held administrative and party jobs: a rayispolkom chairman, a raykom first secretary, Chernigov Gorkom second and first secretary, and chief of the Light and Food Industry Department in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. In 1972, he was confirmed as Ukrainian first deputy minister of light industry, and since 1978 he has been Ukrainian Gosplan deputy chairman.

Comrade G.V. Dzis is a member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Uzbek Commission Debates Work Deficiencies

GF182000 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] The Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Permanent Construction and Construction Materials Industry Commission held a meeting today. The convocation discussed the work carried out by the Uzbek SSR Ministry of Installations and Special Construction Work aimed at consolidating plan, state, and work discipline and upgrading the role of work collectives in accordance with the decisions adopted by the April and October 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenums.

Speaking during the meeting, Deputies Khabibullayev, [name indistinct], Khayrullayev, (Vashev), and others stressed that the ministry's leaders have carried out a certain amount of work aimed at resolving matters concerning the issues referred to. However, the deputies also said that the leaders and the collegium of the Ministry of Installations and Specialized Construction are performing their work at a very slow pace, regardless of the contemporary demands. Many departments are causing serious breaches in plan discipline. Although the subsidiary (?organizations) of the ministry have managed to cope with the 5-year plan in general terms, the main and chief administrations have not realized the plan. As a result, the employment of new forces in work has been disorderly in the Angren coal (?works), the weaving factory and the [word indistinct] factory in Samarkand, [words indistinct], factory in Kattakurgan, and other objects last year.

The permanent commission advised the Ministry of Installations and Special Construction Work and its collegium to put into effect a complex of measures designed to eliminate deficiencies.

Agasyan Appointed Armenian SSR Minister

WA101640 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 17 Jan 86 p 2

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR has named Comrade Vladimir Vardazarovich Agasyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, as minister of the Armenian SSR.

Gafurov Appointed Minister of Tajik SSR

WA101643 [Editorial Report] Dushanbe *KOMMUNIST TA DZHIKISTANA* in Russian on 22 January carries on page 2 a 50-word decree announcing that Rakhimdzhon Gafurov, first deputy chairman of the Tajik SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, has been appointed minister for the republic. The decree is dated 21 January 1986 and is signed by G. Pallayev, chairman of the Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and M. Saidova, secretary. Gafurov was released from his duties as deputy chairman of the Tajik SSR Council of Ministers in connection with his new work.

Moscow Railway Awarded Challenge Red Banner

LD080438 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] The presentation of the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee to the collective of the Moscow Railway took place in Moscow in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions. Over the past-year's plan, labor productivity increased by 11.5 percent, which was 1 and 1/2 times above the planned figure. More than 1.5 billion tons of extra freight was carried on heavy trains and over 360 million kilowatt-hours of electricity were saved, which will enable the railway to operate on economized resources over the course of 26 days. The collective of the railway has now set itself new tasks on the introduction of complex technology which will enable transportation requirements to be fully met in the 12th 5-Year-Plan period.

Irregular Output, Work Pace in January Cited

PM181124 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 1

[V. Sukhachevskiy "Economic Review": "Time and Pace"]

[Text] The economic review "Calculations and Results" (*IZVESTIYA* No 25) analyzed industry's work during the first 20 days of January. It was noted at that time that the scale of production achieved for some of the most important types of output was inadequate for the fulfillment of the annual plan. It was particularly emphasized that symptoms of the same old disease — an irregular pace of work — were visible during the period in question.

And so, January is over. What are the results? They can be described as positive on the whole. In comparison with the 1st month of last year there was a 6 percent growth of total volume and average daily output. A good pace was gathered, ensuring the confident fulfillment of the annual target: This year's plan envisages 4.3 percent growth in the total volume of output and 4.5 percent growth in average daily output (the current year is one working day shorter than last year).

The January output sales plan was fulfilled by all union republics and industrial ministries except the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry. Petroleum industry workers accumulated arrears of 1.2 million metric tons of oil during the month.

The first month of the new 5-year plan was no watershed in the important work of fulfilling delivery obligations. **Not a single industrial sector achieved a 100-percent indicator here.** The Ministry of Power and Electrification, the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry, the Ministry of the Coal Industry, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, and the Ministry of Light Industry proved to be the least reliable suppliers in January.

We have already remarked on how dangerous the irregularity of output is for the economy. During the first 10 days of January average daily extraction of coal and production of finished rolled metals, synthetic resins and plastics, and chemical fibers and yarns were considerable lower than required. The result was that, once again, all hands had to be called to the pumps in order to fulfill the monthly plan. And even that was of no help in some places. For example, there was no success in catching up with the lag in woolen and linen textiles production.

Some ministries are cleverly trying to build irregularity into the plan. For example, January represents 34.9 percent of total working time during the first quarter. If the law of regular working were to be applied, the quantity of output produced in this time also ought to be at least 34.9 percent. But, if we examine the output sales plans of, for example, the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, it appears that for them January "weighs in" at 33.3, 32.7, 33.2, and 33.9 percent respectively. Meanwhile, these ministries have considerably overfulfilled their monthly targets. Is this the way to plan?

And now, briefly, about another most important indicator — labor productivity. Its growth in January, compared with the same period last year, was 5.6 percent against a planned annual growth of 4.1 percent. This growth is encouraging. All industrial ministries except the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry coped with this target.

The first 10 days in February, however, are cause for alarm. A substantial lag has been allowed to occur in petroleum extraction plan fulfillment, and the miners have not coped with their targets. A particularly poor start to the second month was made by the collectives of "Kemerovougol," "Krasnoyarskugol," and "Bashkirugol" associations.

Officials from the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy Planning and Economic Administration attributed the lag in rolled metal production in mid-January to the specific features of production: It is the start of the year, they said, not all equipment has been serviced, and we have to add to this the length of technological cycles. We'll settle down, they said, and we'll catch up

But here are data from the USSR Central Statistical Administration: The output plan for finished rolled ferrous metals was fulfilled only 96 percent during the first 9 days of February, and arrears of 112,000 metric tons have accumulated. The Nizhniy Tagil, Novolipetsk, Chelyabinsk, Kuznetsk, and Orsk-Khalilovo combines, Dneprovsk's Dzerzhinskiy combine, and "Zaporozhstal" are holding the sector back.

Synthetic ammonia, sulfuric acid, and potassium fertilizer output was lower than planned. Targets for the production of metal cutting machine tools were not met. Leningrad's Ya.M. Sverdlov machine tool building association, Krasnodar's Sedin machine tool plant, and the Troitsk machine tool plant are mainly to blame here. So, does the sector headquarters again intend to "pile on the pressure" during the last 5 days, as it did in January when 38 percent of the total quantity of machine tools were produced in 5 days? Apart from anything else, such work obviously does not help to improve output quality.

During the first 9 days of February enterprises under the jurisdiction of the USSR Ministry of Light Industry accumulated arrears of 17 million square meters of textiles and 1.3 million pairs of footwear. There was a substantial drop in average daily output of these products. This is how shortages of consumer goods develop and lines build up in the stores. One thing is linked to the other.

The arrears of the Ministry of the Radio Industry and the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry in this

period are calculated at 45,000 radio receivers and 23,000 television sets.

The planned level of refrigerator and freezer output was not reached, basically because of lags that were allowed to occur by enterprises under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances.

Output targets were not met for a number of petroleum products, synthetic resins and plastics, cement, commercial timber, and synthetic detergents.

On the whole, the plan for 92 (79 percent) of the 117 types of industrial output taken into account by the USSR Central Statistical Administration for its weekly reports was not fulfilled during the first 9 days of February.

It is again necessary to double and treble efforts in order to cope with the month's targets. Productivity records will be set, and there will be examples of selfless work.

Our society has always valued and continues to value labor heroism. What is bad is that advantage is taken of labor heroism to correct mistakes, muddles, and inability to organize work properly.

The changes which are now occurring in all spheres of our life have been welcomed by working people with approval. They will spare neither effort nor energy to successfully fulfill the set tasks. These efforts and this energy must be utilized correctly. Time demands that much be revised. It also demands a different approach to economic management.

Automated Drilling Control System Successfully Tested

LD172058 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1000 GMT on 17 February carries an economic news bulletin presented by Maksim Ginden.

Ginden begins by noting that a report has just come in that the first automated control system for drilling work in the country has successfully undergone testing and been put into operation at the well at Goryachevodskoye drilling directorate at Grozneft. He says that it is known that the oil workers here did not fulfill last year's plan and are still lagging behind, so any technological innovation is welcome.

Correspondent Tamara Aliyeva reports from the drilling directorate control room where she is talking to the deputy chief, Zilshchikov. He explains that computers control all the basic technological processes: deepening wells, running the casings, cementing the wells, and completing the construction of wells after drilling. He says that the economic effect of the system is a production increase of 250,000 metric tons per year. One of the subsystems has secured 122,000 metric tons extra which a substantial addition, he concludes.

Kursk AES Design Capacity Fulfillment Praised

LD171422 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1130 GMT on 17 February, in its "Novosti" program, broadcasts a video report by N. Grebnev from the Kursk AES where its second stage has reached design capacity. Grebnev notes that the design capacity of the first set at at the atomic power station took exactly 1 year to master, while the fourth set, also with a 1-million-kilowatt capacity, achieved this within 3 months — a feat as yet unequalled in the country. The state commission assessed the work of builders and assembly workers, also carried out at record rates, to be excellent. Also, not one technical fault was noted in the work of the power engineers. Almost 1 billion additional kilowatt-hours will now be fed into the country's unified power grid. To generate such an amount of power from a thermal power station, 5,000 rail cars of coal would be required. The newsreader notes in conclusion that since its commissioning the Kursk AES has generated 120 billion kilowatt-hours of power — 5 billion above the plan.

Rossiya Aids Other Icebreakers, Cargo Ships

LD182323 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2200 GMT 18 Feb 1986

[Summary] The ice situation in the western sector of the Arctic continues to remain complex. Now the nuclear atomic icebreaker *Rossiya* has arrived to help icebreakers operating on the all-year route Murmansk-Dudinka-Murmansk. It has already taken ore-carrier *Nikel* through the Yeniseyskiy Zaliv. Now the *Rossiya*'s crew has begun escorting *MV Monchegorsk*, which is carrying Norilsk mining and metallurgical combine goods. The USSR Marine Fleet Ministry has said that nuclear icebreaker's trips are going successfully.

Briefs

Geothermal Energy on Kamchatka — Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky, January 17 TASS — The resources of subsoil heat on Kamchatka Peninsula, northeastern USSR, are large enough to warrant the construction of geothermal stations with a capacity of more than 500,000 kw. Exploring for geothermal sources is one of the main areas in which Soviet volcanologists work. They located five major hydrothermal systems on the peninsula. Major deposits were proposed by scientists for use as energy sources. The USSR's first pilot geothermal station with a capacity of 11,000 [words indistinct] one of them, called Pauzhetsky. [Text] [*Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 17 JAN 86 LD*]

Nuclear Power in Georgia — The construction of Georgia's first nuclear power station is planned for the 12th 5-Year Plan. Specialists at the republic's research institute for power engineering and hydrotechical construction have started working out the most efficient methods for its construction. They will have to work out optimum plans for the use of nuclear energy, not only for the production of electricity but also for the supply of heat to houses, offices, industrial enterprises and livestock farms. [Summary] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 17 Jan 86 LD*]

Agro-Industrial Trade Unions Reorganized

PM141525 Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 Feb 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Plenums of Trade Union Central Committees"]

[Text] The first plenums of the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union Central Committee and the Fish Industry Workers Trade Union Central Committee were held in Moscow yesterday. These two trade unions were formed with a view to bringing the structure of trade unions more fully into line with the management structure of the agroindustrial complex.

The Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union unites workers, kolkhoz members, and employees of enterprises, kolkhozes, institutions, and organizations of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR Ministry of Grain Products, and the USSR State Committee for Material Reserves.

The trade union organizations of enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Rural Construction, which has been abolished, are transferred to the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union, along with the trade union organizations of enterprises for the primary processing of cotton, flax, other fast crops, and wool and those of scientific research institutions which have been transferred from the USSR Ministry of Light Industry to the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee.

The Fish Industry Workers Trade Union unites workers, kolkhoz members, and employees of enterprises, fishing kolkhozes, institutions, and organizations of the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry.

In this connection the Agriculture Workers Trade Union and the Food Industry Workers Trade Union have been abolished.

The plenums examined organizational questions.

M.B. Ryzhikov was elected chairman of the Agro-Industrial Complex Workers Trade Union Central Committee, with A.S. Davydov as deputy chairman. N.I. Dezhinov, V.P. Nikitinykh, A.I. Popov, and L.A. Semenycheva were elected secretaries of the trade union Central Committee.

N.L. Matrosova was elected chairman of the Fish Industry Workers Trade Union Central Committee, with F.M. Korovin as secretary.

Taking part in the plenum were I.I. Skiba, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; M.I. Polyakov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; AUCCTU Secretaries V.P. Provotorov and K.Yu. Matsiyavichyus; and V.M. Kamentsev, USSR minister of the fish industry.

'Optimum' Structure of Gosagroprom Examined

PM181307 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 2

[Article by Professor G. Bespakhotnyy, doctor of economic sciences: "By the End Result; Agro-Industrial Complex: Restructuring Is Under Way"]

[Text] Moscow — The unified system of the country's State Agro-Industrial Committee [Gosagroprom] has been created and is in operation. An economic restructuring is continuing in parallel with the organizational restructuring. The new structure — and in the opinion of many practical experts it is the optimum one — needs a corresponding economic mechanism. At the same time, experience of the work of the agro-industrial associations has revealed a number of problems in planning and encouraging production.

What are the main lessons of the first stage of the restructuring, which began 3 years ago? Half-hearted measures could not produce an effect. The rayon agro-industrial associations were unable to ensure the in-depth integration of agriculture with the processors and servicing organizations. The agro-industrial associations tried to establish plans for their partners, yet the resources and capital investments were handled by the departments. Many agro-industrial associations were concerned only with current issues, having basically adopted bureaucratic [administrativnyye] methods of management. Briefly, there has been no sharp turn toward intensification or the rational use of the potential which had been created. And although the capital-labor ratio has increased, the production volumes in a number of oblasts of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, and Uzbekistan have declined. Extensive growth factors have exhausted themselves.

The economic mechanism is the lever which can boost production efficiency and ensure an increase in output without additional expenditure. For instance, it is important to establish the optimum proportions between the feed base and the animal population, between the workforce and funds, between the capacity of the servicing and processing organizations and the kolkhozes' and sovkhozes' requirement for them. And then, with the same resources, but by making sensible use of them, specialists have calculated that the agro-industrial complex can increase production output 20-30 percent.

The decision to plan the agro-industrial complex as a single entity is very topical. But it cannot be regarded as merely the sum total of its sectors. There are far more complex links between them.

It is obviously not enough to link the capacities of enterprises and production volumes with capital investments and other resources. On each occasion the planning organs must ascertain the priority avenues. Assets must be invested where they will produce a rapid return and the maximum return. For instance, take land reclamation in the non-Chernozem. An important matter. But its effect can be cancelled out by losses due to the poor organization of procurements and storage and processing of output. Economists have calculated that if resources were partly redistributed, allocating them to the construction of storehouses, elevators, and processing enterprises, Vologda Oblast alone

would produce additional output worth approximately R30 million.

It is not only between sectors that disproportions must be eliminated. Take, for example, economically weak farms: They have more growth reserves. But investments have frequently not gone where they are particularly needed, but closer to the cities. After all, that is where the rural construction workers' base is mainly located. And these workers, proceeding from their own interests, have given priority to the installation of projects close to rayon centers.

Not so long ago schemes were developed locally for the location and specialization of agriculture and processing and servicing enterprises. Analysis has shown that in them the sectors are only feebly interconnected. The planners frequently proceeded from departmental methods. For instance, recommendations for the location of material and technical supply bases consider only the expenditure of the former Goskomselkhoztekhnika. Other recommendations substantiate the construction of large food enterprises a long way from fields and stockraising units and essentially cancel out the creation of of processing shops directly on the farms. Yet today many kolkhozes and sovkhozes themselves repair equipment and install particular projects. If we make skillful use of existing processing plants and shops and place new ones correctly, by this means alone we will obtain a tremendous increase in foodstuffs.

I think that a planning document is needed at the oblast and rayon level — an organizational and economic draft for the formation of the agro-industrial complex. It would determine where to construct enterprises and their rational dimensions and development prospects. A considerable proportion of them should be on kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The economic executives' dream is to rid themselves of the bonds which have fettered their initiative. Their participation in the elaboration of the plans of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes will be a manifestation of their independence. Here planning should be not "from what has been achieved," but from resources. It seems to me that V. Gorin, chairman of the Belgorod Oblast imeni Frunze kolkhoz, wrote about this very persuasively in *PRAVDA* recently.

Incidentally, the activity of the agricultural organs so far has also been excessively regimented "from above." Many plans have reached them — over 700 indicators for production, procurements, and sales of output; about 400 indicators connected with the use of capital investments; and over 100 for labor, wages, and finances. In some oblasts of the Non-Chernozem Zone, the bulk of output goes on their own needs. But even here plans for the full volume of purchases go by the board.

The number of indicators is to be reduced, which means that planning is easier. This will lend efficiency and flexibility to the decisions which are taken and will relieve the upper echelons of management of petty tutelage of local organs.

Above all there will be no further need for indicators connected with intermediate results. Is there a need to regulate from above the work of the servicing organizations — the repair and agro chemical organizations? Let them fulfill the farms' orders and be concerned for maintaining the machinery in a good state and increasing the land's fertility. Here there is absolutely no need to chase after a large quantity of repair and technical servicing operations. After all, in the past the partners' activity was assessed on the basis of expenditure. The time came when real conditions had been created for fundamentally breaking with this approach.

I think it is more expedient for republics, krays, and oblasts to have stipulated for them only that part of the end output of the agro-industrial complex which goes into the union-republican fund. It is desirable that this system be extended to rayons and farms. Both society and the kolkhozes and sovkhozes would gain if they were given broader rights in selling what they produce. The system of price formation is also in need of corrections. The republican and oblast agro-industrial committees should obviously change the purchase prices for individual types of output depending on the market situation. Local agro-industrial complex organs should be given the opportunity to set prices for their "commodity" with a consideration for kolkhoz market prices.

Well, leaders and specialists will have far more rights. But is centralized planning not "repealed" in this connection? No. Its methods will be different. As for the incentive mechanism, it should be such that orders "from above" become advantageous and authoritative.

The transition to economic methods of administration substantially alters the role of the rayon agro-industrial association. It is not an office that produces paper but a headquarters that assumes full responsibility for the state of affairs in the rayon's agro-industrial complex.

On the agenda is the assimilation of complete financial autonomy by the agro-industrial complex enterprises; and that means paying for themselves and financing their own capital investments. There is such experience on a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Right now resources are as a rule poorly linked to production volumes. Hence the frequent dependence and material irresponsibility of some leaders. When enterprises pay for themselves, however, their funds, including the wages fund, are formed only through their revenue.

As yet economic levers and incentives in the agro-industrial complex are operating only feebly. Here the new organs must seek a breakthrough. All kinds of supplements to prices for output are now in operation and people are paid numerous bonuses — for volumes of work, for the fulfillment of the plan, for exceeding the level previously achieved, and so forth. Far from everything is regulated in the collective contract. For instance, at present in transferring to the nonregulated link system, the wages fund per unit of output increases substantially in some places. But is this approach justified? Is it not extravagant to encourage only the actual fact of introducing the contract? After all, far from all collectives are achieving an increase in output.

An incentive should work purposefully to increase the harvest, milk yields, and weight gains. But sometimes a particular allowance gives a completely opposite result. Thus, an increase in prices for heavyweight livestock obliges the farms, in order to

obtain an additional profit, to prolong the time taken to raise young animals. Scarce feed is spent and expenditure of labor and funds increase. And the mechanism of allowances for the output of farms showing a low profit operates in such a way that the laggards seem to be encouraged while those who work well lose out materially.

Incentives should reflect the real contribution of the worker or collective to the end results. This is an important requirement of financial autonomy.

Unified engineering, supply, and construction services for the rayon agro-industrial association are now being created. How should their work be assessed? Obviously by each service's contribution to the end result. The assimilation of intersectorial financial autonomy will help here.

A number of regions are conducting economic experiments to develop the economic mechanism. It would not be bad for the USSR Gosagroprom, together with other economic departments, to place the experiments under special control from the outset. This would help avoid many difficulties and errors. And the rayons and oblasts where the new methods are being verified would become a good school for retraining cadres and assimilating leading experience in management and the economy.

Cold Weather Persists in European Part of Country

PM171551 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by agrometeorologist N. Ignatova: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] The cold weather, which established itself at the beginning of February in most of the European part of the country, continued throughout the 10-day period. The average temperature was 3-9 degrees below average. The heaviest frosts were in areas north of a line joining Petrozavodsk, Novgorod, Kaluga, Tambov, and Saratov. The minimum temperature there was between minus 34 and minus 26; over the remaining territory it was between minus 25 and minus 16. There was little precipitation.

Winter grain crops and perennial grasses were safely protected from the effect of heavy frost by a covering of snow. The growthof sample plants taken out of the fields by meteorological stations on 25 January, before the severe cold spell in the European part of the country, demonstrated that winter crops were wintering well in most areas.

The cold weather has brought problems for fruit crops. In some parts of Belorussia, in the Central Region, eastern parts of the Central Chernozem region, and the Volga-Vyataka region (north of Kamyshin) the minimum temperature on the surface of the snow was between minus 33 and minus 30 degrees. Because of the loss of hardiness as a result of the lengthy thaws in January, these temperatures could cause damage to the trunks of fruit trees and to fruit and leaf buds of stone fruits. A lack of snow in a number of Ukrainian oblasts and in parts of the Central Chernozem Zone has made the soil very cold. In some parts the temperature at a depth of 20 centimeters was between minus 10 and minus 7, which could cause some damage to the root systems of quince, plum, and cherry trees.

There were adverse winter conditions for fruit crops in the middle of the 10-day period on the south coast of Crimea and on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus. They had a considerable amount of snow. There were 3-10 cm of snow everywhere, with eastern Georgia having 11-25 cm, some places even more. The temperature dropped sharply. The minumum temperature on the south coast of Crimea was between minus 13 and minus 9, and on the Black Sea coast of the Transcaucasus it was between minus 9 and minus 7. This kind of cold spell in these parts could cause damage, particularly to warmth-loving decorative plants and some subtropical crops, and to unprotected citrus crops (especially lemons and oranges). Winter grain crops lay dormant in the republics of the Transcaucasus. Winter was proceeding satisfactorily there.

The weather was warm in the Central Asian republics, although there were frosts there at the beginning of February. It then became warmer. By day the temperature reached 18 degrees. Winter crops showed slight growth; in some parts pasture vegetation began to grow again. The warm spell has created favorable conditions for putting livestock out to pasture.

Earthquake Reported in Central Asia; No Casualties

LD191432 Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 19 TASS — An earthquake took place today on the boundary between Kirghizia and Uzbekistan (Central Asia). Its strength in the epicentre did not exceed 4-5 points by the Richter scale. The central seismic station Moskva, functioning in Obninsk, not far from Moscow, registered the beginning of the earthquake at 9 hours 43 minutes, Moscow time, and immediately transmitted the news to all the organisations concerned. There are no casualties and destructions.

The recording of fluctuations of the earth's crust is done in the USSR round the clock simultaneously in 100 points. The data are transmitted to the unified centre to be processed. The centre also receives reports from the CMEA member countries. Scientists receive information even about the slightest earth tremors and process this information promptly in order to know precisely the place and the strength of the underground tremor.

The station registers up to 300 earthquakes a year. It happens that the tape of the seismograph records deviations, providing evidence of substantial underground changes. Seismically this year is comparatively calm, though spring, the time for more frequent earth tremors, is approaching.

The sensitive seismograph which registers underground tremors at the Moskva station is capable of registering even those tremors which take place thousands of kilometres away from Moscow. The seismograph has been placed by specialists at a depth of three metres so that city transport and industrial enterprises should not interfere with its work.

The central seismic station Moskva has marked 50 years of its existence this year. Its archives keep recordings of all earthquakes over this period.

Cosmonaut Outlines Long-Term Space Program

LD142016 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Feb (TASS) — The main line of Soviet cosmonautics is to set up long-term orbital stations with changing crews, scientific laboratories which would be like interplanetary railway stations, Vladimir Shatalov, head of Soviet space training, said in an interview with a TASS correspondent. Both manned and transport craft will dock with these to supply the long-term expeditions with everything necessary. I believe that in the not-too-distant future a multitude of stations with various purposes and with the most varied apparatus will start to operate continuously above the planet.

General Shatalov, who has been into space three times, hands over his experience and knowledge to those who have not yet started. Moscow Communists have elected him a delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress, which opens on 25 February.

The day is not far off, Shatalov says, when space observatories and satellites can be put into orbit straight from the station. Most likely such complexes will be assembled directly in weightlessness from units delivered there by transport craft.

Vladimir Shatalov noted that a reliable technical base is now being laid down to accomplish these projects. He cited as an example the tests of the heavy satellite spacecraft Cosmos-1443, -1669, and -1686 as part of the orbital complex. These craft are comparable in size and mass with the station itself. It is not excluded that it will be possible in the near future to create specialized special-purpose modules on the basis of just such equipment.

The Soviet Union, the cosmonaut said, is ready to cooperate with all states in the peaceful exploitation of outer space; but, in peaceful exploitation, because for us the concepts of mutual cooperation and militarization of space are incompatible. Our position in this issue was exceptionally clearly and precisely formulated in the recent statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The scope of our cooperation is constantly widening, General Shatalov commented. Two Syrian pilots, Muhammad Faris and Munir Habib, have started training at Zvezdnyy. They will carry out a broad program of scientific research in space together with Soviet colleagues.

Progress of Vega Space Stations Reported

LD172212 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1145 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Feb [TASS] — The flight of the automatic interplanetary stations Vega-1 and Vega-2, designed for researching the planet Venus and Halley's Comet, has continued for more than 1 year. Following research conducted in June 1985 into the surface and atmosphere of the planet Venus, the stations were moved to a rendezvous trajectory with Halley's Comet, which is approaching the Sun. By now the spacecraft have travelled more than 155 milion km from Earth.

Radio communications sessions during which their flight parameters are determined and the functioning of service systems and scientific instruments is checked, are held regularly during the flight with the Vega-1 and Vega-2 stations. In December 1985 and January 1986 a full check of the spacecraft's functions was carried out by scientists and specialists from Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, the USSR, France, the FRG, and the CSSR.

A correction to the trajectory of the Vega-1 station was made on 10 February to ensure rendezvous with Halley's Comet. The Vega-2 station is travelling along a trajectory close to that calculated, and thus no correction to its trajectory is envisaged.

Operations in the preparation of the Vega stations for the final stage of the unique experiment began on 12 February. At the command from Earth, the automatic tracking platforms have been transferred from transport to operational mode and the televisions systems have been readied for operations. For the purposes of adjustment and calibration, on 14 February the television system of the Vega-1 station was targetted on Jupiter. A color image of the planet, which was 807 million km from the station, was received. The information coming in from space is being processed and studied at the Institute of Space Research

of the USSR Academy of Sciences and at other Soviet and foreign scientific centers taking part in the comprehensive research into Halley's Comet.

According to data from telemetric measurements, the onboard systems and scientific instruments of the interplanetary stations are functioning normally. On 6 March and 9 March the Vega-1 and Vega-2 stations will be about 8,500 and 7,500 km respectively from the center of Halley's Comet.

Pictures of Jupiter

LD150029 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report by S. Slipchenko and V. Pankratova]

[Summary] The first TV pictures from aboard the Vega interplanetary probe were received today.

Early this morning, following a command from Earth, the TV system was switched on aboard Vega-1. After a wait of 20 minutes — this is the time taken by a radio signal to travel to the probe and back — the first pictures appeared on the screen. Now the platform on which instruments have been installed is to turn around and aim the camera at Jupiter.

In the hall are scientists from the Soviet Unmion, Hungary, and France.

The probe's electronic brain is now changing the mode of operation and is selecting exposure and filters, while the members of the international Vega team check how accurate their collective thought has turned out to be and whether the solutions were correct. What they saw on the screen surpassed all expectations.

V.M. Balibanov, deputy scientific director of the project, interviewed at this point says: Now we have Jupiter in the very center of the picture, and we can now safely say that this is indeed Jupiter.

In the computer center of the space research institute color pictures of Jupiter were taken, as you can see now. Jupiter has been photographed by the Vega probe's TV camera with a different exposure, and for this reason the aureole around it is changing. The photographs are now being processed.

The monitor's screen also shows the international organizations, the scientists of nine countries who have joined their efforts. [Video shows a space flight command center. Camera then cuts to computer center at Space Research Institute with monitor showing color pictures of Jupiter and also the names of the organizations taking part in the Vega 1 experiment.]

Briefs

Robots for Machine Building — A new type of robot for use in machine-building has been developed at the Institute of the Science of Machines at the USSR Academy of Sciences. Correspondent Vladimir Rabyko reports that the device is very similar to a man's arm, but can work at a much greater speed and with 2-3 times more productivity. It can be used for loading compat equipment and simple assembly operations. [Summary] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 14 Feb 86 LD*]

Super-Strong Powder — Tallin, 17 Feb (TASS) — Estonian chemists have succeeded in developing materials as strong as tungsten alloys from the waste of titanium-chrome production. The materials developed by the specialists at the Tallin Polytechnical Institute using powder metallurgy methods have been tested successfully in the boiler units of thermal power stations. Fuel mixture diffusers manufactured from these materials have a working life 15-20 times longer than conventional ones. The diffusers are of a special form which is difficult to cast from conventional alloys. The Ilmarine works in Tallin has already provided such components from powder alloys to enterprises in the Armenian heating system and to Lithuanian and Belorussian electric power stations. [Summary] [*Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 17 Feb 86 LD*]

Armed Forces Exercises Held 10-17 February

LD171727 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 17 TASS — An exercise of staffs, troops and naval forces was held on the territory of the Baltic region and Belorussia in the area of Kaliningrad, Baranovichi, Polotsk, Riga and the southern part of the Baltic Sea between February 10-17, 1986.

Mastered during the exercise were the tasks of staff preparedness, combat skill of troops, and management over troops and naval forces. According to senior commanding officers, the exercise was instructive, and showed the enhanced level of operational and tactical preparedness of staffs, of the skill of troops and naval forces in operations on land, in the air and at sea.

The objectives of the exercise were attained. The troops, naval forces and staffs involved in the exercise are returning to places of their permanent deployment.

A.D. Lizichev Promoted to Army General

LD191225 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that the military title of Army General be conferred on Col. Gen Aleksey Dmitriyevich Lizichev.

Lizichev Attends Northern Fleet Party Conference

PM180955 [Editorial Report] Moscow *PRAVDA* in Russian on 29 January in its First Edition publishes on page 2 a 1,500-word report by special correspondent A. Gorkiy on a Northern Fleet party conference at Severomorsk, Murmansk Oblast. Gorokhov summarizes the conference speeches, emphasizing the Northern Fleet's "crucial" role in the "complex international situation and in the multifacted palette of confrontation." The report says: "When the conference participants were assembling in the Severemorsk Officers Club they did not yet know of the 'new' report by Admiral James Watkins, U.S. Navy chief of staff, entitled 'Naval Strategy.' It can be said that the report gives the concept of 'forward sea borders' its final shape. At the top, among the 'other specific targets,' is the Kola Peninsula, and it sets out the task of blackading the Northern Fleet in the Barents Sea." The report goes on to say that "Colonel General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, who was at the conference," had a meeting with Communists on the cruiser *Kirov*.

Ivanovskiy at Ground Forces Council Meeting

PM141521 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Feb 86 First Edition p 2

[Colonel B. Pokholenchuk report: "Reserves for Strengthening Discipline"]

[Text] A meeting with secretaries of party committees and bureaus of a number of regiments, directorates, and military educational institutions has been held at the Ground Forces Military Council. Secretaries of the party organizations of progressive units and also of several laggard units were invited. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the most efficient methods and forms of party organizations' work on improving military discipline and enhancing organization and order in the spirit of the party's contemporary demands, to expose the reasons for the shortcomings that exist, to define ways to eliminate them, and to reveal unutilized reserves.

The report, which analyzed positive experience as well as the shortcomings in this area of party work, was delivered by Colonel General M. Popkov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate.

Summing up the discussion, Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy minister of defense, emphasized the importance of a concrete, businesslike, profoundly thought-out approach to resolving the current tasks in every unit and subunit and of a resolute struggle against lack of self-criticism, formalism, and laxity.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Urges Servicemen's Vigilance

PM171221 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Feb 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Be Vigilant"]

[Text] The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which put forward a package of major new foreign policy initiatives, has generated a very broad response across our planet. It is fervently supported and sincerely approved by all progressive mankind. Today all the peoples of the world have one common enemy — the threat of nuclear war — and one main task — to remove that threat.

However, despite the public's protests and demands and contrary to the will of the majority of the world's states, the U.S. ruling circles are pursuing a futile and dangerous policy and continuing to chase the impossible dream of military superiority. That is graphically confirmed by the U.S. President's traditional State of the Union Address which he delivered to a joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives. Behind the high-flown proclamations about the need for peace can clearly be seen Washington's pretensions to global supremacy and to the role of arbiter of the fate of countries and peoples.

However, the matter is not limited merely to declarations on this score. Concrete actions are being carried out clearly designed to fuel hostility and mistrust and revive the very antithesis of detente — an atmosphere of confrontation. The arms race is continuing and the "star wars" preparations are expanding all the time. It is proposed to allocate the Pentagon $311.6 billion in fiscal 1987, which is considerably more than in the current fiscal year. As M.S. Gorbachev noted in reply to *L'HUMANITE*'s questions, the United States wants to "achieve absolute security for itself and to put everyone else in a position of 'absolute danger.'"

Imperialism continues to strive to bring centers of war danger closer to the state borders of the USSR and the other socialist

community countries. The class enemy is actively trying to carry out ideological subversion. All this places on Soviet servicemen the utmost responsibility for ensuring the country's reliable security and calls for constant vigilance. So long as the danger of imperialism's launching aggression, military conflicts, and various types of provocation exists, the draft new edition of the CPSU Program notes, it is necessary to pay unremitting attention to stepping up the USSR's defense might and strengthening its security. The Armed Forces must display high vigilance and always be ready to nip in the bud imperialism's intrigues against the USSR and its allies and rout all aggressors.

The increasing of vigilance is indissolubly linked with the further improvement of personnel's combat and political training, the fundamental improvement of military discipline, the maintenance of regulation order, and increased organization in units, on ships, and in military-educational institutions and establishments. While taking care to increase personnel's vigilance, military councils, commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations are called on to ensure that all work relating to the inculcation of vigilance is closely linked to the characteristics of the international situation and the tasks currently facing the Armed Forces. That work must be conducted continuously both in everyday situations and during tactical exercises, flights, and sea voyages.

There is much positive experience in this area at the "N" Guard's Motorized Rifle Regiment (Southern Group of Forces) in particular. The whole tenor of personnel's life and service and the ideological and political-educational work there are aimed at inculcating in servicemen a sense of class self-awareness, ideological fortitude, political maturity, and readiness to honorably carry out their military duty. The system of Marxist-Leninist training, political classes, political reports, conversations, reports delivered by communist officers S. Zyablikov, V. Vashchenko, and S. Vypryazhkin, and daily life itself provide a thorough explanation of Lenin's behests on the need for vigilance and of the party's demands on the armed defenders,and concrete facts are used to expose the aggressive aspect of the imperialist states' armies. Constant attention is paid to propagandizing and explaining the law's provisions on the responsibility for divulging military and state secrets and for displaying elements of carelessness. The organization of garrison, guard, and internal services in strict accordance with regulation requirements and the strict observance of the rules governing the use of technical communications facilities and radioelectronic apparatus in exercises and in each study class all help to educate servicemen in a spirit of vigilance.

The constant concern of commanders and staffs is to improve the skills of concealing the control of troops and naval forces and of working these questions out with subordinte units and ships. All this makes it possible to instill in personnel a responsible attitude to the rules of work with official documents and to the established procedure governing official correspondence, telephone conversations, and radio transmission of commands and signals as defined by combat regulations during the organization and conduct of exercises. It is also hard to overestimate the role of frontline experience in the inculcation of vigilance.

A high level of vigilance cannot be achieved where there is no clear regulation order, where guard and watch duties are badly organized, and where breaches of military discipline are tolerated. An implacable struggle must be waged against indifference, complacency, and laxity. The inculcation in servicemen of a heightened sense of political and military vigilance ensures persistent, purposeful, and effective party political work. Special attention here should be paid to servicemen on combat and guard duty.

The purposeful molding in every Soviet serviceman of a selfless devotion to the party's cause, communist ideals, and proletarian internationalism; the fostering of thorough ideological conviction, high political and military vigilance, and the readiness to defend socialism's gains; and the performance of active and aggressive counterpropaganda work — that is the most important task of political organs and party and Komsomol organizations. Military press organs and cultural enlightenment institutions face responsible tasks in that connection.

Raised and educated by the Leninist party and surrounded by the people's concern and love, army and navy servicemen vigilantly stand guard over socialism's gains and are preparing to greet the 27th CPSU Congress with new successes in increasing vigilance and combat readiness.

Naval Air Crewman Recounts Meeting With U.S. Craft

PM101057 [Editorial Report] Moscow *IZVESTIYA* in Russian on 4 February in its Morning Edition publishes on page 3 a 1,400-word article by special correspondent N. Sautin entitled "Post Over the Ocean" and carried under the rubric "Life of the Soviet Armed Forces." Sautin describes some time spent with a missle-carrying naval air force regiment, and he describes the naval airmen's work as "strenous and truly selfless." He cites a Major Kosarev, commander of a crew, who recounts encounters with U.S. aircraft: "Aerial meetings with Americans demand coolness and circumspection. They even simulate attacks. But we do not permit any horseplay." The article cites other airmen who stress such aspects as "teamwork" and the difficult conditions under which they work.